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SR188b spent Overruns mark last budget

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — Government expenditure for fiscal year 1979/1980 was SR188.4 billion, which showed an increase of SR40.891 billion, or 27 per cent, over the expenditure of the preceding year, and SR50.352 billion, or 36 per cent, over that of 1977/78, it was announced here Monday.

The information was contained in the closing account of the state for fiscal year 1979/1980, which the ministry of finance and national economy submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval.

The actual expenditures were spread as follows:

- Salaries: SR23.26 billion, showing an increase of 97 per cent over the planned expenditure.
- Operational & consumer expenditures: SR 11.310 billion, with an 81 per cent increase over the estimated expenditure.
- Subsidies: SR 70.787 billion, 93 per cent over and above the sanctioned budget.
- Projects: SR 63.277 billion, 79 per cent in excess of the sanctioned budget.
- Economic resources sector: SR 23.776 billion.
- Transport and Communications sector: SR 25.515 billion.
- Development of manpower: SR 13.8 billion.
- Social Development Sector: SR 7.393 billion.
- Infrastructure sector: SR 23.47 billion.
- State's contribution of credit funds: SR 25.448 billion.

The ministry enclosed with the closing account an analytical summary of the closing accounts of public establishments attached to the state budget.

Fahd praises role of mosques

RIYADH, March 16 — Emphasizing the mosques as the first school of Islam and Muslims, Crown Prince Fahd reiterated the high priority the Kingdom places on building and taking care of the institutions.

The statement came at the onset of the annual Mosque Week throughout Saudi Arabia.

Crown Prince Fahd also called for mosques to be built in every region and district to afford the people a place to pray comfortably.

The governmental departments of the Presidency of Youth Welfare, Education Ministry and Higher Education Ministry are participating in the week's activities, Prince Fahd said that the Kingdom "was founded with the assistance of God, for the sole aim of working to promote the Word of God." See story page 2.

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ARRIVAL: With tears in his eyes, the captain (left) of the PIA aircraft recounts the story of the 13-day seizure by Pakistani hijackers; the 70-year-old grandmother (center), who refused to go free in Kabul while her grandson was still on the plane, is given assistance while disembarking in Taif; former hostages (right) gather before the PIA aircraft after landing in Saudi Arabia. The passengers asked to be allowed to perform Umra, and thank God for their safety.



(Arab News photos by Dick Massey)

Nazer tells Americans Give priority to Mideast

By John Rossant
Riyadh Bureau

RIYADH, March 16 — Sheikh Hisham Nazer, the minister of planning, told leading American businessmen Monday that the greatest challenge for the new Reagan administration will be to "consider local priorities in certain areas, like the Middle East."

"Not all of the countries of the world think of their problems in terms of the United States and the Soviet Union," Nazer told a lunch-time gathering of the several hundred-strong American Businessmen's Group of Riyadh.

The planning minister said that the concerns of present American foreign policy "would bring us back to the (John) Foster Dulles era," a reference to President Eisenhower's secretary of state who was a prime architect of the cold war policies of his day.

A world-view of this sort is not applicable to the problems of the Middle East, Nazer said, adding that Saudi Arabia "will be willing to give the new American administration a chance" to work out its policies. He predicted that in a few months Washington would return to a more "pragmatic" course in foreign relations.

Nazer said that the United States and Saudi Arabia must work toward what he called a "meaningful relationship." Such a relationship, which he said at certain times "has been tense and almost unworkable," must be based on common interests.

Among those interests, of course, is the primary one involving energy. "As long as you need energy, and as long as we are there to supply it, then we will have a common interest," the minister said.

Nazer added that the Saudi Arabians are firm supporters of private enterprise, "and we both have a common interest in defending our cultures and institutions against international communism."

But the planning minister said that the tendency of peoples in the developing world as well as in Saudi Arabia, to think "romantically" of the United States in "Wilsonian terms of sovereignty, human rights, respect of the individual and private property" can create problems because such a view comes up against "the facts of power relationships."

"We must," cautioned Nazer, "forget about romanticism, international relations have always been based on interest and power relationships."

Khomeini tells leaders to end feud

TEHRAN, March 16 (Agencies) — Iran's religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini said Monday that the internal dispute between Iran's clergy and secular politicians could cost Iran victory in the war with Iraq.

Speaking after an unprecedented summit meeting with political and religious leaders here, Khomeini appealed for an end to discord "whether in the top echelons or among masses."

"If, God forbid, the country is defeated in the imposed war or the solution to this problem (the war) takes a long time, the blame will rest with those who fan the flames of discord or bring about tensions," he said. His speech, reported by the state radio, did not give any hint of what formula he might use to defuse the 11-day-old crisis between President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr and the dominant Islamic Republican Party (IRP).

According to the radio, he referred to some mistakes by unnamed statesmen but said "these are not so important as to harm the Islamic republic."

Khomeini has come under mounting pressure in recent days to speak out on the dispute, which started with violence at a political rally held by the president March 5. About 45 persons were injured in scuffles at the rally, and the IRP and Bani-Sadr and his supporters have since accused each other of having started the trouble.

The president who is facing possible dismissal if the supreme court judges him guilty of abusing his powers, has threatened to resign.

Bonn, Paris agree on major issues

BONN, March 16 (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing have reached full agreement on world affairs during their three-hour meeting near the French city of Strasbourg Sunday night, a Bonn government spokesman said Monday.

Spokesman Kurt Becker said in a statement the two leaders had made a positive assessment of U.S. President Reagan's foreign policy. The statement said other themes of the unscheduled private talks included East-West relations, Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's latest disarmament proposals and the world economy.

But it made no mention of the problems facing both countries in the European Community market, including disputes over fisheries, subsidies to the steel industry and farm prices.

Becker said French Prime Minister Raymond Barre would visit Bonn "in the foreseeable future." Government sources said the visit would largely deal with the EEC problems.

The sources said Barre would not come to Bonn until after next week's meeting of EEC heads of state and government in Maastricht, the Netherlands, suggesting that the summit was unlikely to resolve the major disputes. A lengthy dispute over French access to British coastal waters is preventing a new EEC fisheries treaty.

The row has severely hit West Germany's deep-sea fleet, currently at anchor awaiting the ratification of a fishing treaty with Canada which depends on the EEC accord. Bonn is also pressing for the removal of subsidies by several EEC countries, including France, to their national steel industries which it feels put the streamlined West German industry at a disadvantage.

Rocks trap 30

MANILA, March 16 (R) — Rescue workers are trying to reach 30 gold panners still trapped by a rock fall at an abandoned mine near Mount Mainit on Mindanao island, the Philippines News Agency said Monday.

The cave-in, Saturday, trapped more than 40 men and 11 bodies have so far been recovered, the agency added.

Of the 11 killed, three were children aged five to 11, while three others were teenagers. The rest were adults, including a woman, PNA said. Two of the three survivors suffered injuries, while the third was unhurt. One of them, Juanita Majadas, whose 11-year-old daughter was among those listed killed, told PNA, in hospital, she was at the tunnel entrance to deliver breakfast to her son and daughter inside the pit when boulders suddenly rolled down.

Her son Leonardo managed to pull himself out and rescue her and a 10-year-old boy, she said. "I ran to seek cover but I was pinned down," Mrs. Majadas said. "For almost a minute, we were covered by stones and gravel until Leonardo extricated us with his bare hands." PNA said the rescuers were expected to reach those trapped by Tuesday.

Step to curb smoking

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — The government has banned the import of cigarettes which have more than 15 milligram of tar and one milligram of nicotine per cigarette and has ordered stiffer warnings to be printed prominently on every packet.

The Consumer Protection Department of the Commerce Ministry has requested the chambers of commerce in the country to advise tobacco importers to print the warning that "smoking is a principal cause of lung cancer, lung, heart and vein diseases," on the packets.

The importers must also seek certificates from the manufacturers showing the tar and nicotine contents of the cigarettes. These certificates must be stamped by the Saudi Arabian embassies in the countries concerned.

Bank, ministry disagree Japan defers interest cut

TOKYO, March 16 (R) — An expected cut in Japan's bank rate was delayed Monday by a disagreement between the country's central bank and the Finance Ministry, banking sources said.

The sources said a lengthy informal meeting of the central bank's policy board ended without a final decision on the rate. The Japanese Jiji news agency, however, said the Central Bank may announce a one percentage point reduction Tuesday.

A cut had been expected 24 hours ahead of a big economic package to be announced Tuesday aimed at boosting the Japanese economy after recent signs of sluggishness. But the central bank and Finance Ministry are at odds over the cuts in other rigidly-controlled interest rates, in banks and post offices which would follow a reduction in the Bank of Japan's official discount rate, the sources said.

The Finance Ministry has persuaded the central bank to cut the discount rate by one per cent instead of 0.75, the sources said. But it wants the other interest rates reduced by 0.75 percentage points, while the central bank says they should be cut by one per cent in line with the discount rate, they added.

The ministry, backed by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, believes a one percentage point official discount rate cut is necessary because Japan's economic slowdown is becoming serious, they added. But it wants other interest rates, always slightly higher than the discount rate, to be reduced by a smaller margin because inflation in Japan is running at a relatively high eight per cent, the sources said.

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U.K. strike hits tax collection

LONDON, March 16 (AP) — British civil servants, fighting a war for higher wages, are trying to hit Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government where it hurts by cutting off more than \$2 billion a week in tax revenues.

Civil service union leaders said 2,300 key personnel were ordered to shut down income tax computers in England and Scotland Monday to block the equivalent of an estimated \$1.32 billion from flowing into the treasury.

In addition, they ordered 260 workers at the Southend computer center east of London to quit work, halting collection of \$770 million a week in vat, or value added taxes, an indirect sales levy. Walkouts at the Southend facility last week cost the government some \$550 million in uncollected taxes.

"The next two weeks will be very important to see whether the government decides to start negotiations after its cash flow has been affected," said William Kendal, secretary-general of the Council of Civil Service Unions, an alliance of nine civil service unions, representing 530,000 civil servants.

Government officials conceded that a significant shortfall in government revenue could have serious repercussions for the Thatcher government which last week imposed stiff taxes to beef up income.

The civil service council, whose members range from tea ladies to departmental heads, want a 15 per cent pay hike. But the Thatcher government, waging an inflation-fighting tight-money campaign, refused to go above 7 per cent.

Janitors and other low-echelon personnel are paid the equivalent of about \$9,900 a year, while top-level departmental chiefs earn about \$44,000 a year. Despite a week of widespread disruptions, there was no sign of the government backing down, and Kendal said there "isn't a cat in hell's chance" of the strikers giving up.

Strike organizers said the unions now plan to extend their action into other government operations, warning that customs and excise and social security departments will be hit this week. Law courts also were expected to be struck.

The unions called off a five-day blockade of trade with Ireland Sunday, and customs and immigration officers ended a four-day slowdown at London's Heathrow airport and several Scottish airports. But they promised new disruptions of air and sea ports later this week.

Former captives arrive

By Farouk Luqman

TAIF, March 16 — The Pakistani passengers of the hijacked aircraft and other Pakistani officials arrived here Monday on their way to Mecca to perform the Umra, enroute to their country.

They came in the same PIA plane which made history by having gone through the longest hijack when three gunmen seized it and exchanged the passengers for political prisoners back home.

Altogether 144 persons came here, the original victims of the hijack and Pakistani officials who went to Damascus for negotiations with the pirates.

A Saudi Arabian medical team was at hand to check the passengers but none of them appeared in need of medical care and none was advised to be hospitalized. They had had a medical checkup in Damascus the day before and pronounced fit.

The Governor of Taif Sheikh Saleh Al Salem and leading officers and officials in the city in addition to representatives of the royal protocol and the foreign ministry welcomed the passengers to this summer resort.

"It was their desire to perform the Umra," the Pakistani Ambassador to the Kingdom Najmul Saqib told Arab News. "We communicated their desire to the Saudi Arabian government and received a swift reply of consent and welcome." After the Umra, the passengers will return to the Sheraton Hada Hotel for the night as guests of the Saudi Arabian government before proceeding to Medina to pray at the mosque of the Prophet Muhammad.

Earlier, the freed Pakistan International Airways jetliner took off from Damascus with 95 former hostages, mostly Pakistanis, leaving only six of the hijack victims behind in the Syrian capital.

These included two American passengers, a World Bank official, a Canadian penitentiary escapee, a Swede and a Pakistani pilot who was ordered by doctors to stay in hospital.

A Pakistani government delegation headed by Education Minister Muhammad Agha Khan left with the departing train. The delegation includes defense ministry secretary-general, Lt. Gen. Muhammad Rahim Khan, who also is PIA chairman.

The plane was being piloted by the same crew which was operating the airliner when it was hijacked March 2. "We had thought we would need a new crew, but now we find that this is not necessary. They are all fit and they want to do it," Gen. Khan said.

The physical and mental condition of almost all the hostages was "extremely satisfactory," he said, adding: "In fact it is something we had never expected."

Arrangements were under way to fly two American hostages home. There was no word on travel plans by the other American, Craig Clymore, whose passport has been revoked in a move designed to bring him to the United States to answer a heroin smuggling charge in New York, the U.S. State Department said.

The State Department said Clymore will be issued travel documents valid only for travel to the United States. He has been indicted by a U.S. Grand Jury on charges of smuggling heroin and hashish last week, but news of the indictment was withheld to avoid jeopardizing his life aboard the hijacked air- (Continued on back page)

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International experts gather at KAU

Arab medical conference begins

JEDDAH, March 16 (SPA) — The Sixth Medical Congress sponsored by King Abdul Aziz University was opened Sunday evening by Mecca Deputy Governor Prince Saud ibn Abdul Mohsen. The congress is attended by representatives of 14 faculties of medicine in the Arab world and 59 in Europe, the United States, Canada, India, Pakistan, Thailand and Japan.

Delegates will discuss 250 papers including 50 by Saudi Arabian doctors, according to Dr. Fuad Zahran, KAU faculty of medicine dean. King Abdul Aziz University organized the meeting together with the health and defense ministries. The debates will center on diseases in Saudi Arabia and other Arab and friendly countries. Among the subjects to be discussed are heart and blood circulation dis-

eases, child and maternal care, diseases caused by various parasites and health problems that usually arise during the pilgrimage season in Saudi Arabia.

In his opening address, Prince Saud called on the doctors to promote their science and services in Saudi Arabia. He said he was already proud of the results achieved by King Abdul Aziz University in producing doctors of both sexes to improve public health and strengthen society. He hoped that the university would make additional strides and work out more programs for higher education and scientific research to catch up with the scientific advances of the age.

He expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the ministers of higher education and health and the health services department of

the Defense and Aviation Ministry as well as King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah for their efforts in trying to promote science and extend the best possible services to the citizens.

Higher Education Minister Sheikh Hassan Al-Sheikh, who is also the chancellor of Saudi universities, thanked Prince Saud for dedicating the conference. He stressed that the Kingdom had given a chance to female Saudi students to graduate in advanced medical sciences in an Islamic climate. Also, a large number of students from the Gulf and other Arab, Islamic and friendly countries are studying at Saudi universities, the minister said.

Hasa projects receive boost

HASA, March 16 (SPA) — More than 16,000 houses have been connected to the central water and sewage network in Hofuf and Al-Mabraz and 7,000 houses in the old quarter, Hasa Mayor Ahmad Al-Sughayyer said Sunday. The municipality also received 18 sewage pumping stations in the same cities as part of phase I of a SR 210 million network project.

Tourist projects at Ain Nejm and Jabal Al-Qara here are expected to be completed within the coming few months in cooperation with the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu. They will include swimming pools, health water therapy, a mosque, a restaurant, children's playgrounds and rest rooms. In addition, the contract calls for the construction of parking lots, rest houses, playgrounds, lighting, buffets and various entertainment grounds.

Meanwhile, SR 28 million was allocated for health projects in Jof, Qurayyat and Wejh. The projects were approved by the Ministry of Health and were submitted to the Finance and National Economy Ministry, Al Medina said Monday.

The projects mostly involve expansion of present hospitals in this region. The Jof hospital expansion project was allocated SR 6 million; construction of housing buildings for Wejh hospital nurses also won SR 6.4 million.

UPM plan focuses on air pollution

DAMMAM, March 16 — The research institute of the University of Petroleum and Minerals is studying a working plan for the setting up of a network of stations to monitor air pollution and collect data.

In a statement to *Al-Riyadh* newspaper, Dr. Abdullah Al-Dabbagh, research institute director, said the study's chief target is to find the most suitable ways for designing a network of stations for monitoring air pollution through available data and determining and fixing the ideal sites for the stations.

SR500m dry dock

DAMMAM, March 16 (SPA) — A dry dock costing SR500 million will be ready for operation in two years, according to official sources.

The scheme will involve two floating repair docks with a capacity for ships of 45,000 tons. It also will have a repair pier 400-meters long complete with 60-ton cranes and other services.

The contract also calls for administration buildings, mosque and housing for 6,750 employees. The announcement follows a report by Tabuk Governor Prince Abdul Majid saying a port for the Northern Province is under consideration.



DELEGATES: Members of medical faculties from around the world listen to a speech given by Prince Saud ibn Abdul Mohsen at King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah. The prince opened the congress which will address diseases in the region.

BRIEFS

PLO receives \$28m

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — Saudi Arabia Sunday gave \$28 million to the Palestine Liberation Organization. The check was handed to Rafik Natsha, Fatah's representative to the Kingdom.

Natsha thanked King Khaled and the Saudi people for their continuous assistance to Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom pledged the sum to the PLO during the Baghdad conference.

Food festival opened

JEDDAH, March 16 (SPA) — Deputy Governor of Mecca Prince Saud ibn Abdul Mohsen Monday opened a ten-day Chinese Food and Culture Exhibition. Traditional musical instruments, post stamps and various arts works with images of old and new China will be on display.

Sudan dinner held

JEDDAH, March 16 (SPA) — The Foreign Ministry Monday gave a dinner in honor of Sudanese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Al-Fateh Bishara at the end of his tenure. Present at the dinner were Sheikh Saleh Sunbul, the head of the ministry's protocol department; his deputy Sheikh Hussein Marzouqi; and members of the diplomatic corp.

Indonesian minister arrives

JEDDAH, March 16 (SPA) — Sutikno Lukinud Bistro, Secretary general of the Indonesian information ministry arrived here Monday on a short visit to Saudi

Arabia for talks with Saudi officials.

Chamber group cables Prince Saud

DAMMAM, March 16 (SPA) — The Federation of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture on Arab Gulf States Sunday cabled its greetings to Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal on the creation of the Arab Gulf Coordination Council. The telegram, signed by Sheikh Saad Al-Mosajjel, the federation's vice president, said that the federation hoped to play a positive, effective role in consolidating Gulf cooperation.

Technology seminar planned

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — The Education Ministry Sunday invited qualified male teachers who accompanied their wives (who are teachers) to the Kingdom to apply for employment. They will have until April 4 to submit their applications with supporting documents.

Technology seminar planned

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — A seminar on technology in the service of economic development plans to Saudi Arabia will be held at Riyadh University in Al-Malazz Tuesday evening. The seminar will be attended by Dr. Bakr Hamzah, director of the solar energy program at the National Center for Science and Technology; Dr. Reda Ubaid, the head of the center; and Dr. Faisal Bashir, undersecretary for planning.

Prince Fah underlines mosque role

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — Prince Fahd Monday reiterated the King gives high priority to mosques and their care since mosques are the first school of Islam and Muslims.

In a statement issued during the Mosques Week, Prince Fahd said the King has a good time to review efforts toward religious objectives. He called for mosques in every area and district, ever remote or small it might be, to encourage citizens to perform prayers comfortably.

Mosques Week, which began Monday, is the fourth organized by the Ministry of Endowments to look after mosques.

Following is the full text of Prince Fahd's statement: "The Kingdom was founded, with assistance of God, for the sole aim of promoting the Word of God and to adhere to the Sharia and its principles."

Therefore, looking after mosques is a duty because they are the House of God on earth and first school of Islam and Muslims where they pray to Him.

Looking after the houses of God by building more mosques, maintaining and repairing them and providing their requirements and facilities, is the clear mark of a Muslim society which preserves history and occupies the place of the heart and the source of the virtuous religion and deeds.

The annual Mosques week, organized by the Ministry of Endowments and held for the fourth time during the period between 10th and 16th of Al-Awal (16th to 22nd March) in cooperation with Youth Welfare Presidency is an opportunity to review the efforts exerted in this connection and encourage these efforts to achieve their aspirations.

The objectives are: First, building more mosques in every area and district, however small it would be, to enable every citizen to perform his prayers comfortably. Second, provide all resources to secure the complete implementation of the mosques' mission of promoting virtue and eliminating vice.

The number of mosques in the Kingdom is estimated at 20,356, and are served by more than 40,000 Imams, Muazzins and sermons. The budget of the ministry's Endowments and Mosque Affairs Agency this year amounted to 1.22 billion, to which SR 5 million was added as bonuses and increments for those serving mosques.

Several government sectors as the Welfare Presidency, the Education Ministry and the Higher Education Ministry are participating in the week's activities.

Solaim to see Japan officials

Japan Bureau

TOKYO, March 16 — Dr. Solaiman A. Solaim, minister of commerce, arrived in Tokyo late Sunday afternoon at the invitation of his Japanese counterpart Rokusuke Tanaka, minister of international trade and industry.

Dr. Solaim is accompanied by Taufiq Ibrahim Taufiq, undersecretary of commerce, and Dr. Khaled Yusuf Al-Khalaf, Saudi Standards Organization governor. The visit is to last until March 20. On March 16, Solaim will meet Japanese Crown Prince Akihito, Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and Tanaka.

Japan presently has a \$14-billion trade deficit with the Kingdom. As a result of growing trade problems with the United States and EEC countries, Japan is looking for more trade cooperation with the Kingdom. During his first visit to Japan, Solaim will inspect Toyota's latest car assembly factory and Sony's electronics



Dr. Solaiman A. Solaim, Planning Minister Sheikh Hisham Nazer and Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Sheikh Zaki Yamani have visited Japan.

At month's end

U.K. health mission planned

LONDON, March 16 (LPS) — A cerebral function monitor, which provides continuous records of both the patient's brain activity and the condition of the electrodes, will be promoted during the British Health-Care

Export Council trade mission to Saudi Arabia. The trade mission will visit March 20 to April 12.

Designed and developed by Lectromed Ltd, of Jersey Channel Islands, the monitor features high degree isolation for safety, and warning devices to signal non valid data on the record in the event of high interference levels. It is the first apparatus to have been developed and used for routine monitoring of cerebral function, is cheaper than EEG apparatus and is easy to use and interpret. Applications include observations after cardiac surgery, cerebral ischaemia, drug overdose, epileptic treatment, induced hypothermia and hypotension, and intensive care monitoring.

Representing Lectromed will be international marketing manager Ronald Fletcher, who will also be promoting his firm.

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To organize cooperation

Klibi to present Arab unity document

RIYADH, March 16 (SPA) — Arab League Secretary General Cheddi Klibi said that the Arab Good Offices Committee is preparing a document that will organize cooperation among all Arab Countries and coordinate their efforts.

Klibi, who paid a three-day visit to the Kingdom on his way from Sudan, said the important document will be submitted for approval. He said Arab countries are aware of the dangers around them, therefore, the resolutions of the Amman summit have been implemented on their political and economic aspects.

The good offices committee comprises Saudi Arabia, Algeria and the Arab League General Secretariat. It was formed last December with the purpose of reconciling Arab ranks, and drawing up certain rules that would govern relations and cooperation among Arab countries to preserve the Arab World from dissension and clear the atmosphere.

The Amman 11th Arab Summit last November rejected all peace alternatives, Klibi said. It reaffirmed the Palestine Liberation Organization's right to represent Palestinians in any dialogue at a time when Arabs

entered an era of planning future projects, the secretary general added.

The world realizes that it has an erroneous opinion about the Arab world being divided and that there are some moderate countries and some radical countries. Arabs proved that their crucial causes necessitate a unified stand, Klibi said. He called on the Arab world to adopt a new policy based on calm and constructive dialogue to reach a joint policy that achieves peace.

Klibi denounced the media campaign working to create an impression that the Arab world has become disintegrated and that the possibility of dealing with the region become dangerous. He expressed optimism on the prospects of reaching a better American understanding of Arab rights.

Klibi said that he differs with those who think that President Ronald Reagan's administration would continue the Camp David process. The U.S. President gave the impression that he realizes that interests linking his country with the Arab world, in addi-



Cheddi Klibi

tion to the necessity of a comprehensive peace initiative should be based on reasonable principles.

The Arab League secretary general stressed that clearing the Arab atmosphere from differences is the most powerful weapon in the political struggle. Klibi urged Arabs to enter the political struggle firmly and with integrated ranks.

Health contracts to be let

By Muhammad Al-Qahatani
Riyadh Bureau

RIYADH, March 16 — The Health Ministry intends to contract 200 doctors, assistants and nurses from Pakistani, Syria, Philippines and the United Kingdom. The contractors will be appointed at the ministry's new clinics

in the Southern Region, officials said Monday.

The ministry has recently completed building 30 clinics in the Southern Region. Health Minister Dr. Hussain Al-Jazzeri instructed the ministry's seven permanent committees in Pakistan, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Philippines, Britain and China to recruit personnel to run the new clinics.

Seko Toure meets Chatti

JEDDAH, March 16 (SPA) — Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure, chairman of the Organization of Islamic Conference's goodwill mission trying to mediate in the war between Iran and Iraq, held discussions Monday with OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatti on the mission's next move following Iranian rejection of its peace plan.

After the talks Chatti denied that the mission had failed and said its efforts would continue. The responses of both Iran and Iraq to its proposals had contained positive elements, which left the door open to a settlement, he said.

The mission consists, apart from Sekou Toure and Chatti, of the presidents of Pakistan, Gambia and Bangladesh, the Turkish

prime minister, the foreign ministers of Malaysia and Senegal and Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat.

Chatti said the mission was working with United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim but said it had nothing to do with the committee of the non-aligned movement charged with finding an end to the war.

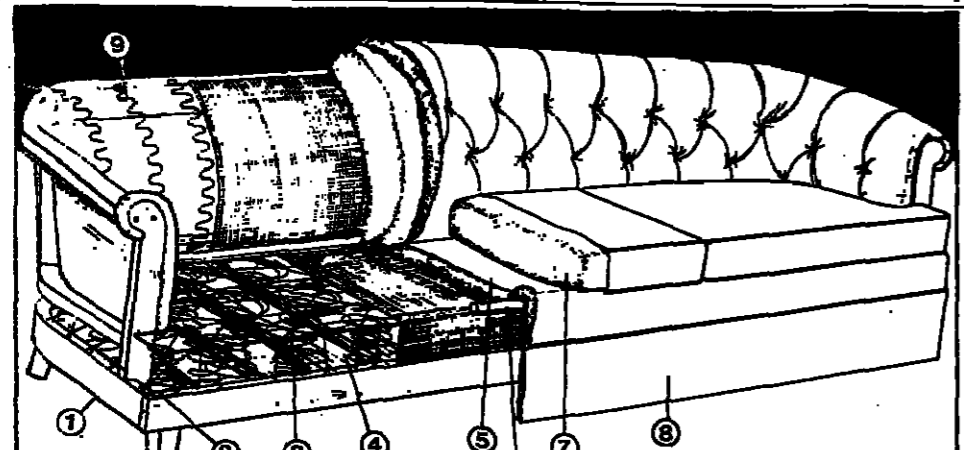
That committee, formed last month at the non-aligned conference in New Delhi, met Saturday in Beirut at the headquarters of the PLO political department, a Palestinian source said. One member, Zambian Foreign Minister Lameck Goma, could not attend but his Indian and Cuban counterparts, Narasima Rao and Isidoro Malmierca were present along with PLO political department head Farouk Kaddoumi.

Study measures sea life poisoning

DAMMAM, March 16 (SPA) — Researchers from Dhahran's University of Petroleum and Minerals are undertaking a scientific study to measure poisonous mineral concentrations in sea life.

The study aims at preserving the marine, land and air environment and verify the extent of poisonous concentrations in sea life like algae, delphinium and fish in the Ara-

bian Gulf waters. The researchers will concentrate on algae and some other sea creatures and their role in polluting the Gulf region. They will also decide the possible degree of concentrations the poisonous minerals in the bone tissue of creature that have commercial value. In addition, the researchers will estimate the degree of mineral concentration in the materials lying at the sea floor.



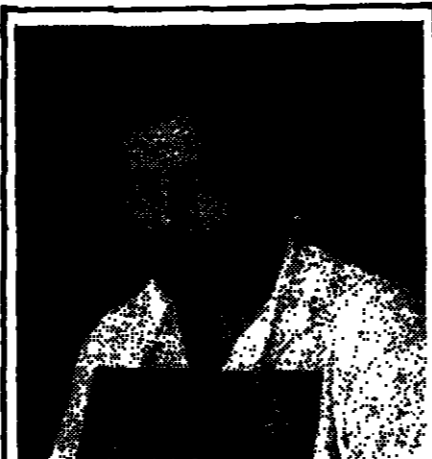
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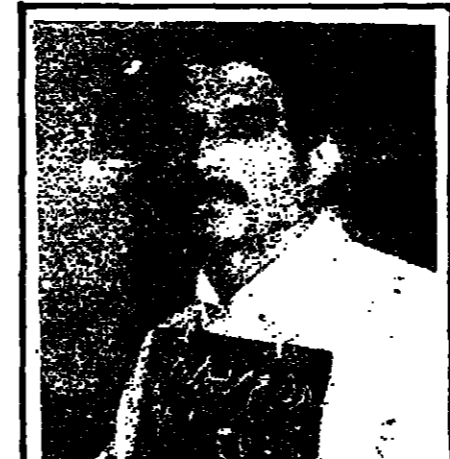
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FORGERS: Khalaf bin Marzouq Al-Shamri (left) and Sulaiman bin Raja Al-Shamri (right) were sentenced with a jail sentence and fine after forging a signature.



Forgers sentenced to jail, fine

RIYADH, March 16 — Two nationals were sentenced to two-and-a-half years in jail and SR5,000 fine each for forging the signature of an official. The two men,

Sulaiman bin Raja Marzouq Al-Shamri and Khalaf bin Marzouq bin Shaker Al-Shamri, were convicted of the forgery after investigation, *Al Jazirah* reported.

Prayer Times

	Mecca	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Tuesday						
Fajr (Dawn)	5.03	5.04	4.35	4.22	4.47	5.16
Ishraq (Sunrise)	6.28	6.29	6.00	5.47	6.12	6.41
Dhuhr (Noon)	12.29	12.30	12.01	11.48	12.12	12.42
Assr (Evening)	3.54	3.56	3.27	3.14	3.38	4.08
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.32	6.32	6.04	5.50	6.15	6.44
Isha (Night)	8.02	8.02	7.34	7.20	7.45	8.14

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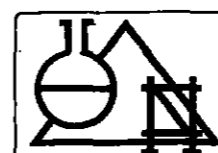
- 1 - Compound located in Suleymania next to the military club, land area around 4,000 m², building area around 3,000 m² surrounded by three streets, the compound consists of:
 - a) Four villas: Three two-storey villas and one single-storey villa, they include: 30 rooms, 20 bathrooms, reception halls and dining rooms.
 - b) Swimming pool: Around 80 m² with all filtration and associated equipment, lockers & showers.
 - c) Well cared for gardens.
 - d) Separate reception hall overlooking the gardens & the swimming pool.
 - e) 10 separate rooms with bathrooms.
 - f) Garages & large storage area.

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- 2 - Compound located in Suleymania behind the military hospital, land area around 5,000 m², building area around 2,500 m² surrounded by four streets, the compound consists of:
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 - b) Two swimming pools 60 m² each, with all filtration & associated equipment, one of the pools water heated with regulator.
 - c) Well cared for gardens.
 - d) 30 separate rooms with bathrooms.
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Palestine holds key to M.E., says Jordan

NEW YORK, March 16 (AP) — Unless a solution to the Palestine problem is found soon, peace in the Middle East will be in great danger. King Hussein of Jordan is quoted as saying.

In its forthcoming issue, *Newsweek* reports that in an exclusive interview the Jordanian monarch said, "We will reach the point at which people will lose hope, finally and totally for any solution."

Italy to sell Iraq eleven warships

NICOSIA, March 16 (AFP) — Italy will supply Iraq with 11 warships and a floating dock under a \$1,800 million contract, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported here Monday.

It said the deal seems to have been concluded late last year but that the Italian government had only recently granted export authorization to the state shipyard Fincantieri.

The contract covers four Lupo type frigates, six Corvettes, a logistics ship and the floating dock. The deal would have gone through earlier but was held up by the U.S. which delayed an export license for eight General Electric turbines to be fitted in the frigates, MEES said.

By European Parliament

Algeria rejects Sahara resolution

BRUSSELS, March 16 (AFP) — Algeria rejected but Morocco warmly approved this weekend, through their ambassadors here, the European Parliament resolution of Sahara, which is leaning to the Moroccan views. The resolution, passed Thursday by 140 votes against 92 and 11 abstentions ignored the existence of the Polisario independence front and asked Algeria not to use its border territory to attack Morocco.

A last minute amendment, however, softened it by taking note of the United Nations

Four Turkish guerrillas shot dead

ISTANBUL, March 16 (AP) — Turkish police said Monday the four terrorists shot and killed in a shootout near Istanbul Sunday belonged to a little-known group. Police sources said the four were members of the "People's Revolutionary Vanguard," linked to the Turkish People's Liberation Army-Front (TPLPF).

The four were shot and killed at the end of a three-hour shootout in Bahcelievler, a middle-income residential district 20 kilometers west of Istanbul. Eyewitnesses

that Washington will form a more objective attitude to the problems of this area. "It is only by solving the Palestine problem that security can be reinforced," said Hussein, adding that "defense should be the responsibility of the people of the Middle East themselves."

The Arab leader, says the weekly, also welcomed America's recent agreement to sell Saudi Arabia new F-15 jet fighters. "Saudi Arabia is a nation that also has rights as well as threats to its own security and future," he said. This equipment, he told *Newsweek*, was already part of the Israeli arsenal. *Newsweek* also quotes Hussein as saying that the Soviets actually want to "help establish peace" in the Middle East, and that "it would be reasonable to give (them) the opportunity" to participate in future peace talks.

"I shall talk frankly and openly about all problems and see what response there is," he told *Newsweek* in connection with his forthcoming visit to Moscow.

Newsweek also said the U.S. government plans to relieve some of the diplomatic pressure that had been applied to Israel during the presidency of Jimmy Carter. It quotes a top State Department official: as saying that "there is not going to be any more American conflict with the Arabs at the U.N."

"This administration is not going to be always pushing the Israelis to make every last concession on every issue," the official said, according to *Newsweek*.

resolution in favor of the self-determination of the Saharan people. It also asked Algeria and Morocco to reach an agreement on the issue. Algerian Ambassador Idriss Jazairi rejected in a communique the resolution, saying it was one-sided in favor of Morocco and ignored the problem of the decolonization to make Sahara merely one aspect of the East-West conflict.

On the contrary, Moroccan Ambassador Zine El Abidine Sebbi in another communique approved the resolution

said that four sang "revolutionary songs," and opened a barrage of pistol fire when a police team spotted them in a four-story building.

Sharpshooters stormed into the hideout when it became obvious, police said, the four will not surrender. They said the gunmen had come from rural Turkey recently to stage a string of terrorist acts. Police sources said they were presumably involved in the slaying of two policemen in Usak, in western Turkey, a while ago.

Afghan army unit defects

NEW DELHI, March 16 (AFP) — Three hundred Afghan army soldiers and 11 officers defected last week and joined the fighters to ambush a Soviet convoy near Garzed, killing at least 24 Soviet troops including an officer, third world diplomatic reports reaching here said Monday.

The change of sides of the complete unit, which was stationed in Logar province, south of Kabul, was the first major defection reported this year. In the ambush of the Soviet munitions convoy Thursday, the fighters destroyed at least five trucks carrying supplies and seized munitions.

Yemens discuss economic links

MANAMA, March 16 (AP) — North Yemen and South Yemen discussed Sunday ways of upgrading economic cooperation and setting up joint trade and industrial ventures, the Gulf News Agency reported from Sanaa.

It said officials of the countries met in the North Yemeni capital March 10-15 to examine details of a planned economic integration program.

Meanwhile, in Baghdad, the presidents of Iraq and North Yemen discussed strengthening bilateral relations at a meeting Sunday soon after the North Yemeni leader arrived on an official visit, the Iraqi news agency said. It said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein paid tribute to North Yemen's support for Iraq in its war with Iran when he welcomed President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

BRIEFS

TEL AVIV, (R) — Israeli troops stopped 300 Palestinian villagers holding a protest march Sunday to the site of a new Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank, military sources said here.

ABU DHABI, (AFP) — Eritrean liberation movement leader Osman Saleh Sebi met a representative of United Arab Emirates President Ahmed Khalifa Al-Swidi here Sunday. He informed the presidential official on political and military developments in the 18-year-long war for Eritrea's independence from Ethiopia and the Arab League's efforts to unite the various Eritrean movements, a source said.

DACCA, (R) — Three high-ranking military officers and two civilians are being court-martialed in Bangladesh accused of attempting a coup last year, defense lawyers said.

TEL AVIV, (R) — Opposition Labor party officials admitted Sunday they no longer expected a decisive victory in Israel's June 30 general election.

Ford discusses Gulf security in Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI, March 16 (AP) — Former U.S. President Gerald Ford delivered a verbal message from President Ronald Reagan to U.A.E. President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Sunday before discussing Gulf security and the Palestinian issue, government sources reported.

Fresh from a two-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman and an audience with Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed, Ford spent three hours

here before proceeding to the state of Qatar. A senior government spokesman said the Ford-Zayed talks lasted 90 minutes and were "friendly" despite recent statements by U.S. defense officials on the desirability of having U.S. military bases in the region.

"The talks covered Gulf security and the Palestinian issue," said the spokesman. "Ford outlined the views of Reagan and we told him that the U.A.E. would never con-

sider the question of allowing U.S. bases on its territory. We reiterated that any discussion on the subject should be considered in the context of the Palestinian issue," he added.

Ford later arrived in Doha for a brief visit to Qatar. While in Doha, Ford was to meet with government officials for talks on developments in the Gulf and Middle East regions, sources here said.

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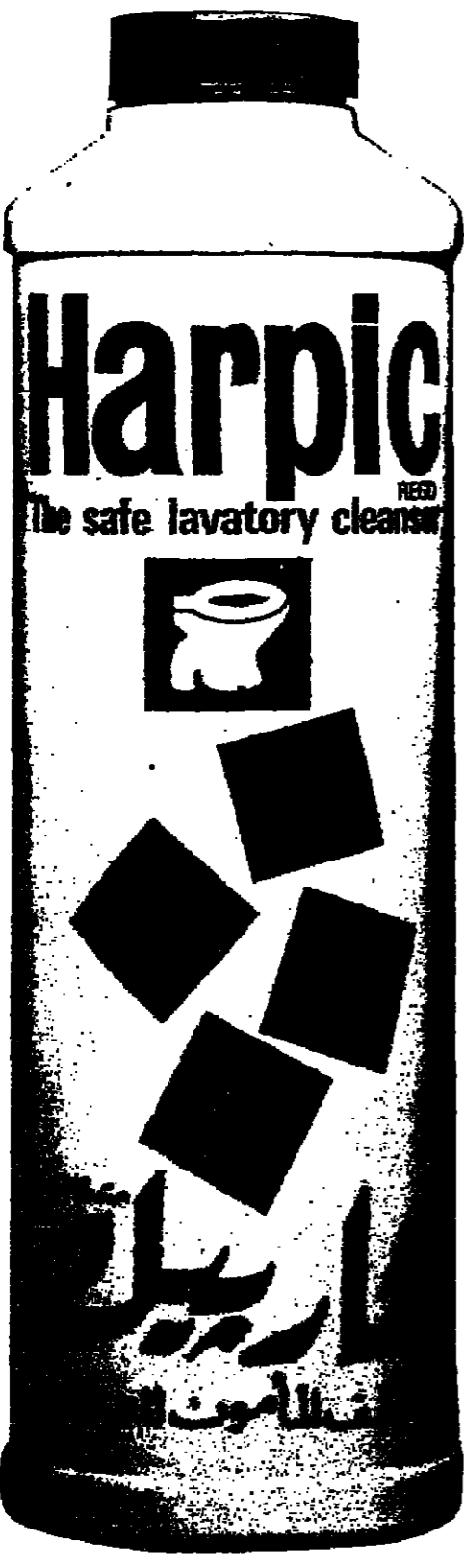
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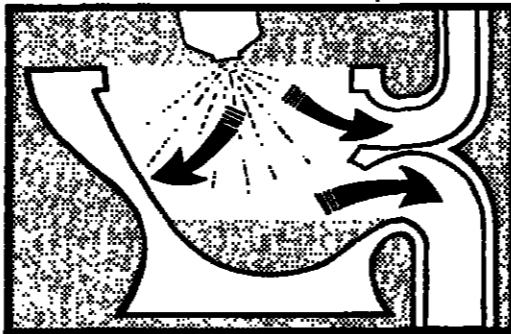
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On army confidence steps

Moscow proposes talks with Japan

TOKYO, March 16 (R) — The Soviet Union has proposed negotiations with Japan on so-called military confidence building measures, foreign ministry sources said. The proposal was conveyed to Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito by Soviet Ambassador Dmitry Polyansky in a two-hour meeting, the first between a Japanese foreign minister and the ambassador since late 1977. He sources said Sunday. Polyansky was quoted as saying the Soviet government was ready to embark on negotiations with Japan in the measures — known as CBMs in diplomatic circles — which were first proposed at the European security conference in Madrid last year as a guard against surprise attack.

U.K. experts fall for spoof sundial

LONDON, March 16 (AFP) — British experts, who might perhaps have seen the light sooner, have apparently fallen for the spoof invention of a sundial that can be used at night.

The inventor, Fred O'Brien, sent the details to Britain's *Design* magazine which published them, according to *The Sunday Times*. And designers in general were so impressed that 150,000 models of the sundial are now being manufactured in Hong Kong, the newspaper added.

Orthodox sundials work by the shadow of a pointer falling on a clock face—necessarily by day. O'Brien, *The Sunday Times* said, produced his invention after becoming critical of the silliness of modern gadgetry.

He sent it to the magazine, which came out with a feature on the O'Brien luminous pocket sundial with auxiliary light source.

The BBC — British Broadcasting Corporation — then showed interest, wanting to know how it worked.

entire European territory of the Soviet Union. Ito told the ambassador that a solution to the territorial problem concerning four of the Kurile Islands, which Japan claims, was crucial to mutual confidence, the sources said.

The Russians have held the islands, off Japan's northern major island of Hokkaido, since the end of the World War II and relations between Tokyo and Moscow have been strained in the past few years because of a Soviet military buildup there and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

At the start of Sunday's talks, the ambassador said he had a two-point message from the Soviet leader and put forward the CBMs as the second point in the message, the sources said. Japan has refused to conclude a World War II peace treaty with the Soviet Union saying Moscow must first return the four islands to Tokyo. Moscow maintains that there is no territorial question outstanding between them.

The Japanese government has been under strong pressure from Washington to increase its defense capabilities in view of growing Soviet military strength in the Far East and in the western Pacific. Ito, who leaves for the United States Saturday, is expected to discuss Japan's defense policies in relation to the Soviet Union with President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger.

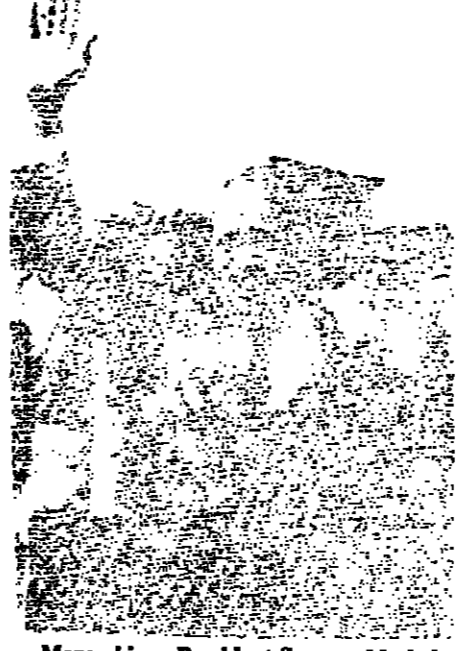
CIA plotted assassination of Machel, Soviets say

MOSCOW, March 16 (AP) — CIA agents in Mozambique plotted to assassinate President Samora Machel, Radio Moscow has reported, quoting remarks made by the Mozambican information minister at a weekend news conference.

Earlier reports of the news conference, carried by the Mozambique information agency, Western news organizations and the official Soviet news agency Tass Sunday did not mention the alleged assassination plot. "The information minister of Mozambique, Jose Cabaco, reported that agents of the CIA planned to assassinate President Samora Machel," Radio Moscow said.

"Speaking to foreign correspondents in Maputo Saturday, he introduced two spies who gave details of their subversive activity," it said. "Speaking at the news conference a captain of the Mozambique air force who infiltrated the spying network reported the plan. It was prepared and financed by the CIA through the racist regime of South Africa," Radio Moscow said.

The radio report apparently referred to the Mozambican air force flight captain, Joao Goncalves, who told the news conference he had infiltrated a CIA ring under orders from his government, which credited him with smashing the alleged network.



Mozambican President Samora Machel

Mock Canadian takeover of U.S. Embassy planned

TORONTO, Canada, March 16 (AP) — In the next few months, top Canadian and U.S. security officials will stage a mock terrorist takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa under the code name Kuo III, says Solicitor-General Robert Kaplan.

Kaplan said in an interview that the main objective of the mock assault, "approved at the highest levels of both countries taking part, ... is to help us evaluate our preparedness" for such an incident in Canada.

But top security advisers for the federal government say they also want to ensure they are ready for all eventualities during the economic summit in Ottawa in July that will be attended by diplomats and senior officials from the seven leading industrialized countries in the West.

Kaplan said that because the summit could involve a more substantial threat to Canada

of potential terrorist acts than ever before, "we will be completely prepared if it happens." To prepare for any possible terrorist acts, Kaplan said, the Cabinet is considering setting up a crack assault force of military personnel.

Most of the information about the force is secret. "What detailed plans are will not be disclosed, but I do feel it is in the public interest to know that the government has plans to deal with these things," Kaplan said.

He expressed faith in his department's intelligence work on terrorist groups, and said there were no such groups posing a threat to Canadian interests operating in Canada. However, some ethnic groups are a threat to foreign embassies here and "we watch for the development of that kind of terrorism."

In the event of a terrorist attack, the federal solicitor-general would be designated as "lead minister," Kaplan said, and within 24 hours a special operations room would be activated in his department. Such an operations room was activated prior to and during the recent visit of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Kennan chosen peace laureate

CHICAGO, March 16 (AP) — George F. Kennan, former ambassador to the Soviet Union and a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, has been chosen as peace laureate by the Albert Einstein Peace Prize Foundation, the head of the group's prize selection board has announced.

The second annual peace prize, worth \$50,000, was awarded to Kennan because of his continuing efforts to ease tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union, said Norman Cousins, head of the selection board and former editor of the *Saturday Review*.

Cousins said Kennan, in his career, has applied Einstein's belief that "we have to learn to think in a way to prevent military contests which must be disastrous to all parties."

Comedian quits French poll

PARIS, March 16 (AP) — France's most popular comedian has withdrawn from the nation's presidential race, ending a bizarre and highly-publicized campaign that professional politicians claimed was an insult to the democratic process.

Michel Colucchi, a junior high school dropout best known by his stage name Coluche, refused all comment about the decision to end his "null and void" candidacy. Coluche was put under police protection in December because of threatening letters he has received about his unorthodox campaign.

West Germany to sell India two submarines

NEW DELHI, March 16 (AP) — West Germany has agreed to sell India two 1,500-ton submarines and also transfer technology for indigenous manufacture, the United News of India (UNI) has reported.

The two submarines, from the West German shipyard, Howaldt Deutsche Werke, will be built according to specifications suggested by the Indian Navy, said the agency, quoting military sources.

Under the agreement, West Germany will also train Indian Naval designers and technical experts for the manufacture of similar submarines at a new Indian shipyard. India's navy currently has eight Soviet-built Foxtrot-class submarines.

IRA man starts fast

BELFAST, March 16 (AP) — A second Irish Republican army prisoner joined a hunger strike Sunday in the Maze prison near Belfast, to demand political status for convicted IRA guerrillas. A government spokesman said that Francis Hughes, 25 refused breakfast. He is serving a life sentence for murder and other terrorist-related offenses.

BRIEFS

NEW DELHI, (AP) — Police and paramilitary units fired on rioting student demonstrators in India's violence-torn Gujarat state Sunday, killing at least one youth in Ahmedabad and seriously wounding four others, the United News of India reported.

TOKYO, (AP) — Daigaku Horiguchi, a leading poet credited with introducing modern French poetry to Japan, died of acute pneumonia at his home in Hayama, southwest of Tokyo, Sunday, his family said Monday. He was 89.

LISBON, (AFP) — Twenty-seven Portuguese youths managed to cram themselves into an Austin mini car here Sunday in front of television cameras. According to the TV commentary, the feat established a world record. Observers here pointed out that confinement of large numbers in small spaces is a relatively banal activity in Portugal, which is a leading exporter of sardines.

LONDON, (AFP) — Watching television is still Britons' favorite pastime but they spend less money on food, clothes and tobacco than they used to and more on alcohol and rent. Official figures released Sunday showed that many more of this country's residents go abroad for a holiday than they did a few years ago. Spain is the favorite choice.

NEW YORK, (AFP) — Police officials in Atlanta, Georgia, believe that as many as ten murderers could be responsible for the deaths of 20 black children in that southern metropolis since July 1979, *The New York Times* reported Sunday.

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SAHARA CRISIS

The European parliament in Strasbourg occupied itself towards the end of last week with the struggle over the Western Sahara, voting for a resolution sympathetic to the Moroccan view of the crisis. The resolution noticeably regards the issue as a more or less straight expression of the East-West confrontation, and ignores the call for independence issued by the Polisario.

It was natural that the Moroccan government welcomed the resolution, while the Algerians officially described it as "politically short sighted." The Polisario itself declared that the resolution, in its call for direct negotiations between Algeria and Morocco over the issue, contradicts the U.N. resolution which called for negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario.

The European resolution was taken with a majority of 140 votes against 92, with 11 abstentions. The pattern, it was noted, reflected the division within the European parliament between Liberals, Gaullists, Conservatives and Christian Democrats on the one hand, and Communists, Socialists and Social Democrats on the other. The left quickly retaliated after the vote by pointing to the U.N. resolution and questioning the propriety of the Europeans contradicting it in this abrupt way.

It's not clear why the Europeans chose to interfere so openly in a crisis which is essentially Arab in nature, and which, for a long time, has been top of the agenda for the Arab League mediators. The question raised is whether this is only an isolated move on the part of the European, or that it heralds a more active interest on their part in the affairs of Arab North Africa.



Why China canceled pacts with Japan

By Donald Kirk

TOKYO — Japanese officials believe they can ride out the diplomatic and economic storm created by China's decision to cancel contracts worth \$1,500 million. Sources here say that Peking has promised not to cancel deals worth another \$3,000 million and note that Japanese firms are still exporting machinery for enormous industrial and construction projects.

"There's no change in the overall relations between our countries," one Japanese diplomat said, putting a brave face on the cancellations, which — directly and indirectly — affect more than 1,000 Japanese companies. "We're not so worried."

Japanese sources said the government had clearly decided to view the cancellations as "a mere episode" in what are generally "improving relations" between the two countries. "The Japanese don't want to lose their foothold in China in an argument over a few contracts," said one.

A high-level Chinese trade delegation, led by Liu

Singhua, deputy general manager of the China National Technical Import Corporation, arrived here several days ago. Liu and his aides plan to spend the rest of this month explaining China's problems and policies to the 25 companies whose contracts were canceled, as well as leaders of industrial and trade associations and government officials.

"We fear that the Chinese side have not yet made clear what China wants to do," said a Japanese official, describing the talks as "in the first stage." All told, China has canceled 100 contracts after suspending work on four petrochemical installations and a steel mill.

Japanese trade officials have been encouraged by the results of a recent trip to China by Saburo Okita, minister for external economic relations, who said Chinese authorities had assured him that China "will handle problems in accordance with international practice." Japanese businessmen want to know whether that means China will offer at least

some compensation for the canceled contracts.

In fact, Chinese officials have reportedly suggested that Peking might re-negotiate the contracts if Japan were to assist with long-dated, low-interest loans. China has a good reputation for servicing debt payments.

Another problem affecting trade relations may be China's inability to increase oil exports to Japan as previously planned. Last year China exported eight million tons of oil and had planned to raise the figure to more than nine million tons this year and 15 million tons in 1982. "Now the Chinese are saying they can only export eight million tons this year and next years," said a Japanese source.

Japanese sources believe the answer to the complex economic problems between the two countries may lie in another round of ministerial talks. "As a government, we want private Japanese companies to solve their problems by themselves," said one official. "But if they fail, then the government will also have to enter discussions with the agencies concerned in China."

Saudi Arabian Press Review

In a broad headline story, *Al Medina* quoted a top military official as saying that the Egyptian pilots who had led the Ramadan war against Israel had been trained on Saudi Arabian fighters at the Kingdom's bases. He also said that preparations are being made to receive the F-15 fighters aircraft within the next few months. *Okaz* gave lead highlight to Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, who arrived in Jeddah Monday, to probe a new formula of peace between Iraq and Iran.

The Guinean leader is the chairman of the Islamic goodwill committee which is trying to bring peace to the Iraq-Iran borders. In a lead story, *Al Bilad* highlighted United Arab Emirates' President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan's call for Arab unity and solidarity, while *Al Jazirah* reported that the released hostages of the hijacked Pakistani airliner would be given a medical checkup during their one-day stay in Taif, from where they would go to Mecca for minor pilgrimage and then to Medina to pay a visit to the Prophet's Mosque.

In a front-page story, *Al Riyadh* and *Okaz* reported that the Kingdom has given \$28 million to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to boost its struggle to liberate Palestine. *Al Nadwa* gave page one highlight to a story on the construction of a \$850 million dockyard at the King Abdul Aziz Seaport in Dammam. Syria's reaffirmation of its continued effort to stabilize peace in Lebanon figured prominently on the front page of *Al Bilad* while *Okaz* quoted Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klihi as saying the U.S. President Reagan's policy in the

Middle East region is encouraging and there is a likelihood of a better U.S. understanding of the legitimate rights of the Arabs. *Okaz* also frontpaged the impending visit of Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky to the Middle East, which begins next Saturday.

Newspapers editorials focused further light on the task of the Islamic goodwill committee, expressing the confidence that opportunities are still in store for Iraq and Iran to make an exit from the present crisis with honor and dignity. It, however, hoped that an agreement would be made soon on the ceasefire so the committee can shuttle between Tehran and Baghdad to achieve its objectives. The European initiative in the Middle East formed another topic for discussion in some newspapers, which held the belief that there could be no positive outcome of any effort so long as Begin stays at the helm of affairs in Israel.

In an editorial on the goodwill committee, *Al Jazirah* reiterated that the committee provides a valuable opportunity for settling the dispute with dignity. The paper stressed the need for a ceasefire, saying the entire Islamic nation is convinced that war would benefit neither party but would give opportunity to the enemies of Islam to implement their hostile plans in the region. The paper further hoped that the leaders of both Iraq and Iran would take a more flexible attitude and give a favorable response to the efforts now being exerted by the goodwill committee to end the bloody conflict.

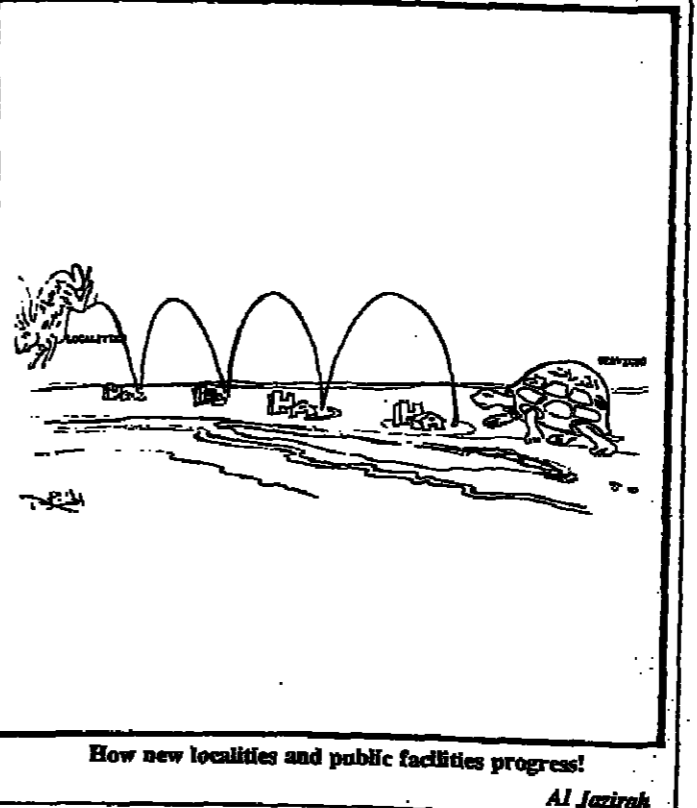
Okaz concerned itself with the rift and divergent opinions prevailing among the Arab and Islamic

states. It described the rift and dissension as a bitter tragedy of the nation, and called upon all concerned to keep personal interests quite detached from the hopes and aspirations of the peoples of the region.

Al Riyadh, meanwhile, referred to the rift on the European initiative and regretted that differences continue to grow among the parties concerned. It said that both Europe and the U.S. are aware of the fact that no positive outcome would be seen so long as Begin stays in power in Israel. The paper reaffirmed that the creation of a link between the political development in the Middle East and any Israeli event would only mean killing the time. It also expressed the fear that the attitude of procrastination would aggravate the problem in the Middle East.

Discussing the U.S. stance, *Al Yawm* observed that President Reagan has begun to look at the Middle East problem from an angle that is seemingly quite different from the views he held prior to the assumption of the high office. The paper thought that the U.S. president has perhaps realized the value of stability and security in the region, which is a significant factor in the popularization of peace at the world level. It added that the outcome of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and the refusal of the Gulf Arab leaders to place the region into the orbit of international conflict have accelerated the American move at the highest level.

Al Bilad dwelled on the Gulf, saying that its leaders are determined to build more bridges of mutual understanding and channels of positive work among themselves.



Letter to the editor

Sir,
I cannot make out why the Islamic countries cast an expectant look toward the United Nations for securing justice when they very well know it is hopelessly ineffective. Its resolutions carry no weight and the usurper nations could not care less for them. The fate of resolutions passed on occupied Arab territories, Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and the like are the glaring examples which amply portray the impotence of the world's supreme forum.

There is yet another farce called the "Nonaligned Movement". Conspicuously aligned countries like Cuba, Vietnam, India and the Babrak Karmal Administration also claim to be nonaligned although every nation knows the truth.

The late King Faisal of Saudi Arabia's ambition was to unite the Muslims all over the world and strive for their betterment. Through his untiring and sincere efforts, the Organization of Islamic Conference came into existence. Now it is high time for us to get together and put our full weight behind it by patching up our differences so that it could play an effective role in the comity of nations for safeguarding our rights. Let not the rabid prejudice stand in our way to unity. A solid Muslim block is the need of the day.

Yours faithfully,
Raja Muhammad Yussuf
P.O. box 41464
Riyadh

ملكا من الملوك

A dhow trip to remember

Excitement all the way to Khobar

By Jean Grant

AL-KHOBAR — Nothing matches the 4-hour dhow trip from Mina Manama to Khobar Port to telescope all the excitement of an intercontinental ocean voyage: embarkation, the leavetaking, then gentle lull as waves lose their novelty, and fore the skyline of Khobar looms on the horizon, the ceremonial raising of the lags. The barefoot helper Jamil, crawls to up the dhow to raise the flags — topmost the green Arabian standard with sword and Quranic inscription, below it the red-and-white angu- flag of Bahrain.

Ibrahim Muhammad Issa is captain of the dhow. At sea since he was 9 years old, he has his work aboard the 57-foot dhow. He is full of high spirits as it weighed off from Mina Manama with its deck crowded with 30 patriate schoolteachers from Dhahran academy. "I like the freedom of the sea," said Issa. "If I worked in a factory I'd have to sort for work at 7 a.m. and besides," he said with a sheepish grin, "I don't like taking orders."

As the skyscrapers on the Manama skyline faded, the wind picked up and a few waves broke against the high-pooped dhow. Issa and his Omani assistant Jamil fastened the ve-hued canvas onto the windward side to shield the passengers from the spray. They dined along the sides cheerfully but soon looked like bedraggled refugees while the captain remained spiffy in his red-checked tunic and grey pin-striped thobe, looking more like a businessman than a sailor. "The weather today is not good. There is too much sun," he said. "You should come in summer when it is lovely."

"My grandfather was a dhow captain," said Issa over the throbbing of the diesel engine. His boat like all others then was rigged with sails. He used to take the Emir, Sheikh Salman, from Muharrag Island to Bahrain by dhow before Muharrag was joined to the main land by a causeway. Issa's father was also a dhow captain but going along with times he added a motor in his dhow. Issa considers himself a family forward-looking and innovative. He has a blue box which held the gear for the wheel, he claimed to be the first to get the speed control to a dhow. Issa does not regret the romance of the traditional Arabian dhow. Unlike the expatriates, he doesn't imagine postcard pictures of these splendid craft under full sail in the

are now no large dhows equipped with sails, only small ones.

He has owned the dhow only for a year and a half. He was reticent about his income from it, saying that "it depends on chance. You imagine that professional sailors have sailed the ocean blue touching on all coasts so it came as a surprise to learn that Issa has visited only Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and India. When he travelled to Bombay, it was by plane. Far from being rootless, his affections are firmly anchored in Bahrain. "India is good," he says "and the medicine there is especially good, but of all the countries Bahrain is the best." To emphasize this point twice he repeated, "Mithl Bahrain mafih."

As the wind gained strength and the deck of the dhow glistened with spray, the conversation turned from flying fish to safety.



CAPTAIN: Ibrahim Muhammad Issa, the captain of the dhow, Bandar.

"Many a ship has sunk," lamented Issa. "But still a boat is safer than a plane. If a plane crashes, all die. If a dhow capsizes, not all die since some can cling to the side until another boat comes to help."

And what if the engine should fail? "I would repair it, first setting anchor," replied the captain calmly. "Then I would signal for

"Once the 24 kilometers causeway linking Bahrain and Saudi Arabia is completed, Issa will take up fishing or find other work. Once cars and trucks thunder across the 4-lane causeway with its five suspension bridges, a way of life will have passed away. He doesn't expect his young son to become a sailor, so Issa may be the last of his generation to earn his living with a dhow.

set. He takes a businesslike view, and remarks, "the sailing of a dhow rigged with its requires a lot of work and costs a lot more because of that. So it is better to have a diesel engine." Evidently his view is shared by fellow-sailors for he points out that there

help and the Coast Guard would come. Maybe I'd have to wait two or four hours, but they would come." Not surprisingly, there were no good luck charms aboard. "I don't believe in them," said Issa. "I believe solely in God."

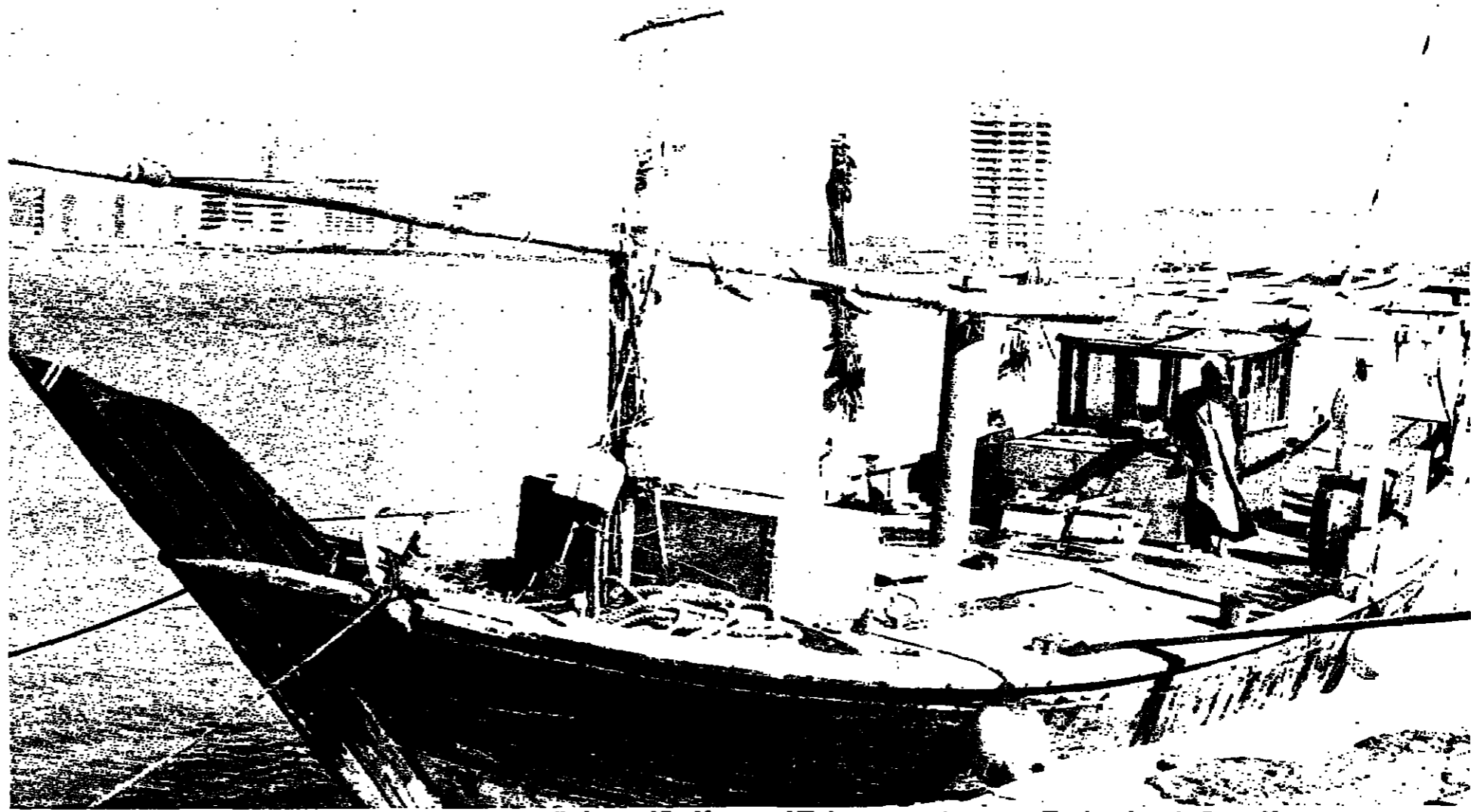
Once the 24 kilometers causeway linking Bahrain and Saudi Arabia is completed, Issa will take up fishing or find other work. Once cars and trucks thunder across the 4-lane causeway with its five suspension bridges, a way of life will have passed away. He doesn't expect his young son to become a sailor, so Issa may be the last of his generation to earn his living with a dhow.

Although many dhow captains are now working in offices and factories, dhows for both transport and fishing are still being built in Bahrain. Built by hand from mangrove wood imported from India, a dhow without engine can cost from \$80,000 to 100,000, and takes about a year to build. Along the waterfront at Manama Port were boys caulking the seams of a dhow. The stink of rotten fish didn't deter the boys. Nearby lay the frame of a dhow in an earlier stage of construction, looking like the skeleton of a giant fish with ribs of mangrove.

Prices for the dhow crossing vary from 25 to 50 riyals depending on the time of embarkation and number of passengers. Those who do not need a visa for Bahrain (like U.K. nationals) can make the voyage by dhow both ways, but Americans and Europeans usually fly to Bahrain's airport to get the visas that can't be obtained at the dhow port, and make the return crossing to Saudi Arabia by dhow.



BUILT: A dhow being built at Mina Manama.



DHOW: The dhow, Bandar, which Ibrahim Muhammad Issa plies between Mina Manama and Khobar to transport passengers. The photo shows the dhow at Manama port.

Liverpool reels under crime wave

By Ed Blanche

LIVERPOOL, (AP) — Tom Molloy is king to emigrate to New Zealand with his wife and three children after teenage vandals broke into his market garden business for the first time in a year. "People are civilized in New Zealand," said Molloy, who estimates the vandals have cost him \$46,600. "There's law and order there. It's just the bloody jungle here."

Molloy, 40, is a victim of a crime wave sweeping Liverpool and the rest of Merseyside, the once bustling northwest England now plagued by urban decay, a shrinking economy and rising unemployment pegged at 109,500, or 15 per cent of the workforce. "Crime is the only booming industry in Merseyside," said Prof. Fred Ridgeway of Liverpool University's Politics Department.

Police Chief Constable Kenneth Oxford issued particular alarm at the spread of "violent violence" with violent crimes up

21 per cent last year, about half committed by youngsters who left the classroom only to go straight onto the unemployment register. Two-thirds of the 30,000 who leave school every year find no jobs or only temporary, low-paid work under the government's youth opportunities program.

Ridgeway noted: "something like a quarter of all police prosecutions involve children under 16 and another quarter of young people between 16 and 21." "And that's just the tip of the iceberg. Only a small proportion of offenders are ever caught. Under-16 crime is particularly high in districts where unemployment is also high." Crime cost Liverpool some \$58 million last year. Property damage, much of it by teenage vandals, totaled \$8 million.

In the Kirkby district, built 10 years ago to house transplanted slum-dwellers, one in seven houses has been vandalized, often beyond repair. One community leader, Charlie Wright, 29, said: "Some families dare not leave their houses for more than a few hours because they know these kids will strip them

clean. It happens all the time." Ridley believes Merseyside's young generation is lashing out with "simple undirected violence and pointless destruction" at what it sees as an indifferent society.

A welfare worker noted: the problems getting worse all the time. Parents on the dole have become apathetic. Their children run wild and see school as a waste of time. "They're disillusioned and bitter. And who can blame them?"

Stanley Reynolds, an American writer who lived in Liverpool for many years, said that the tough northern city, "which normally has a free and easy attitude toward a punch in the month, is growing worried about violence and the city's bad image."

The Hoteliers' Association claims its members lose \$7 million a year because businessmen are afraid to stay overnight in Britain's fifth largest city. Business is still brisk in the 600 pubs, and clubs, say police. They report that violence has soared by 25 per cent since 1979, much of it because of heavy drinking. Some pub owners now keep handguns behind the bar. In the rundown West Indian Ghetto, university known as "Liverpool," diners at one club have to eat without knives because they are banned after a spasm of gang stabbings.

Liverpool's street fighters are known as "bucks," a throwback to the Irish "buckos" who flooded the city during the potato famine of 1845-49. Their favorite weapon is a razor-sharp linoleum knife — "the Stanley" in slum argot.

"This kind of weapon seems to be exclusive to Merseyside," said Oxford. "Men carry these weapons with the express intention of inflicting injury."

Merseyside has hundreds of acres of derelict housing, rubble-strewn streets and boarded-up stores — monuments to abandoned urban renewal schemes which gutted whole neighborhoods. Graffiti is everywhere: "Kill Paks (Pakistani immigrants)," "Workers Unite" and "Tory Bastards." In the ransacked buildings kids play a new game of "chicken's seeing who can spray paint names and slogans on the outside walls closest to the roof.

Police reported 3,800 muggings last year on people aged 59 or over, commonly known as "granny-bashing." To help the victims, Joan Jonker launched a victims of violence campaign five years ago and has helped 12,000. "I gave a talk at a borstal (reformatory) last month and I told the lads there it was their society, but they're turning it into a jungle where only the strong survive and the weak and the old are killed," she said.

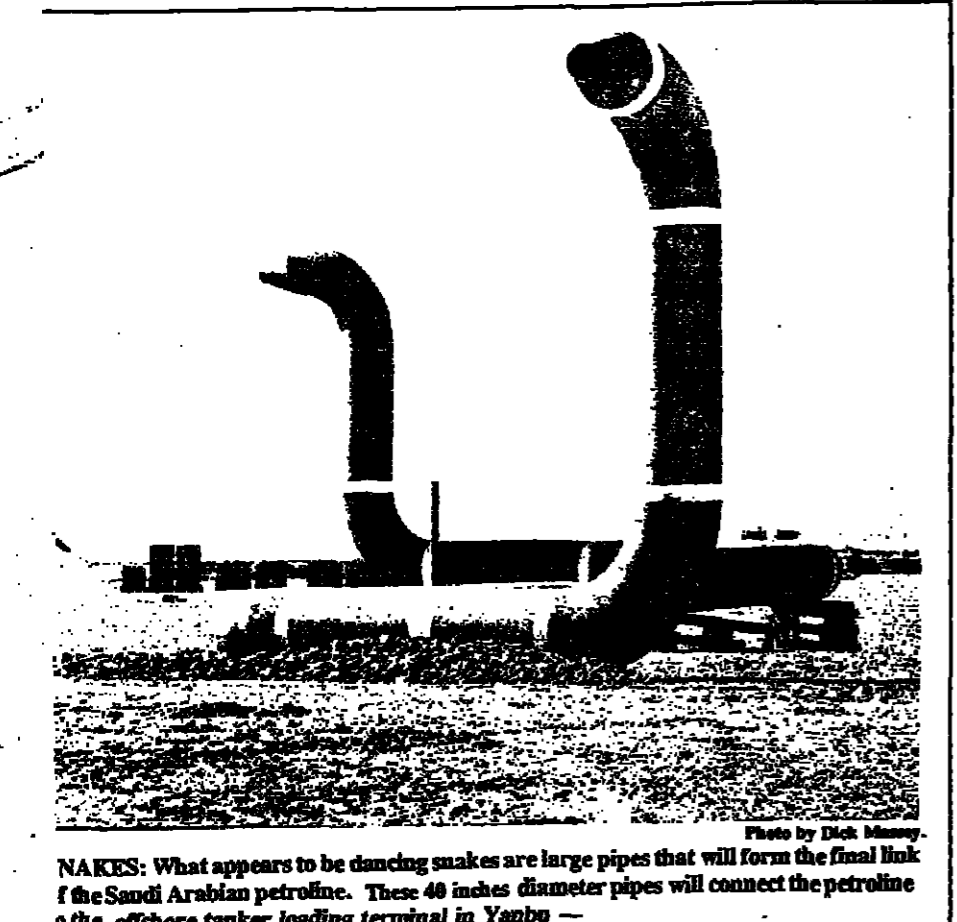


Photo by Dick Massey

NAKES: What appears to be dancing snakes are large pipes that will form the final link of the Saudi Arabian petroleum pipeline. These 40 inches diameter pipes will connect the petroleum to the offshore tanker loading terminal in Yanbu —

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Bullets' qualifying chances diminish

NEW YORK, March 16 (AP) — The Washington Bullets' playoff hopes are fading and nobody knows it better than coach Gene Shue.

"We don't have much of a chance at this point, not the way we're playing," said Shue, whose Bullets tall the Chicago Bulls by three full games with just seven to play in their battle for the sixth and final Eastern Conference berth in the National Basketball Association playoffs.

"It doesn't seem to matter who we play. We are capable of losing to anybody," said Shue after the Bullets dropped a 101-100 decision to the Cleveland Cavaliers Sunday, Washington's third loss in a row.

The winning margin for Cleveland was Mike Mitchell's turn-around jumper from nine feet out with 23 seconds remaining. It was the second game-winning basket of the weekend for Mitchell.

In other games, the Chicago Bulls defeated the Kansas City Kings 97-87, the New York Knicks beat the Philadelphia 76ers 120-109, the Boston Celtics outscored the New Jersey Nets 133-125, the Milwaukee Bucks topped the Seattle SuperSonics 132-108, the Denver Nuggets downed the Houston Rockets 138-127, the San Diego Clippers edged the Los Angeles Lakers 122-118, the San Antonio Spurs trimmed the Golden State Warriors 114-112 in overtime and the Portland Trail Blazers walloped the Dallas Mavericks 135-110.

Bulls 97, Kings 87: Reserve guard Ricky Sobers scored 24 points and center Artis Gilmore had 20 points and 11 rebounds for Chicago, which led by 13 at halftime. Kansas City pulled into a 76-76 tie and then out-

scored the Kings 21-11. Reggie King led Kansas City with 27 points and 16 rebounds. Knicks 120, 76ers 109: The Knicks shot a sizzling 59 per cent from the field in beating the 76ers as Ray Williams scored 25 points Russell added 24 and Michael Ray Richardson contributed 22 points and 14 assists.

The Knicks built a 13-point lead in the first 9½ minutes and never let up against the 76ers. Julius Erving scored 31 points for Philadelphia.

Celtics 133, Nets 125: Cedric Maxwell, Larry Bird and M.L. Carr scored 21 points apiece as the Celtics won their 28th game in a row at Boston Garden. The Celtics outscored the Nets 32-14 in the final 7½ minutes of the third quarter to take command despite a career-high 35 points by New Jersey rookie guard Darwin Cook.

Bucks 133, Sonics 108: Milwaukee built a 26-point lead in the first half and breezed past Seattle as Brian Winters scored 19 points and Bob Lanier and Pat Cummings added 18 apiece. The game was marred by numerous fouls in the second period, and Milwaukee coach Don Nelson drew a technical when he told referee Dick Bavetta, "you're not getting paid by the hour."

Nuggets 138, Rockets 127: A three-point play and two free throws by Billy McKinney midway through the fourth quarter enabled Denver to pull away from Houston and snap a four-game losing streak. Moses Malone scored 31 points for Houston and David Thompson had 27 for Denver.

Clippers 122, Lakers 118: Guard Brian Taylor scored a season-high 31 points, including four three-point goals, as San Diego trimmed Los Angeles.

Alan Jones triumphs

LONG BEACH, California, March 16 — Alan Jones of Australia opened defense of his first Formula One World Auto Racing Championship by speeding to an easy victory in the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach Sunday.

Jones, 34 started second on the grid, but put his sleek green and white Williams FW07 into the lead on the 32nd of the 80 laps and stayed there.

He fended off a brief challenge from teammate Carlos Reutemann of Argentina and breezed the rest of the way for his first career victory on the narrow 2.02-mile (3.25km) course through the streets of Long Beach.

Jones, who now has won 11 Formula One races — counting a disputed victory last year in Spain — roared across the finish line 9.19 seconds ahead of Reutemann. The winner's average speed was 87.6 mph (141kph).

Defending Long Beach champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil, in a Brabham, finished a

distant third, while Americans Mario Andretti, in an Alfa Romeo, and Eddie Cheever, in a Tyrrell, were fourth and fifth, respectively.

The teammates dueled nose-to-tail for several laps before Jones slipped past coming up the hill to the 12th and last corner of the 32nd lap.

Frenchman Patrick Tambay finished sixth in a Theodore TR3. It was the first world championship points ever for Cheever, the Phoenix-born driver who grew up in Italy, and the first point for Tambay since 1979.

The 24-car field made a standing start from the head of the long Backstretch straightaway, with Patrese leading Jones and Reutemann into the first turn of the race.

Didier Pironi of France, in a Ferrari, passed a group of cars and wound up going too wide on the tight seventh turn of the 12-turn course. However, he managed to regain his momentum quickly and began a battle with Piquet for fourth.

Ken Barrington dies

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados March 16 (AP) — Ken Barrington, assistant manager of England's touring cricket team and one of the finest Test batsmen England has produced, died of a heart attack at the team's hotel here during the night. He was 50.

Barrington, who played 82 Tests for England between 1955 and 1968, had practiced with the team until Saturday morning just before the start of the second day of the third cricket Test against the West Indies. He was forced to retire from the game in

1968 after scoring 6,806 runs in Tests at an average of 58.67 per innings because of a bad heart. However, he had been actively involved in administration, serving as assistant manager on several tours and as an England selector.

His death will further depress an England team already demoralized on the tour by poor performances and the political controversy over the South African playing contacts of fast bowler Robin Jackman, which caused the second Test in Guyana to be cancelled.

Richards slams century

West Indies well placed

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, March 16 (R) — Viv Richards hit an unbeaten century to put the West Indies in control of the third cricket Test against England Sunday.

Richards was 102 not out at the close of the third day when the West Indies were 243 for five in their second innings — 388 ahead with two days left after Monday's rest day.

After being dismissed second ball for nought in the first innings, Richards took revenge by scoring his 12th test hundred on a pitch which appeared to become progressively slower.

He was supported by Everton Mattis in a fourth-wicket stand of 59 and then by Larry Gomes in a fifth-wicket partnership which

added 82. Nightwatchman Colin Croft provided an unexpected batting boost when he celebrated his 28th birthday with his highest Test score of 33 after the West Indies resumed at six for one.

Fast medium bowler Robin Jackman was the best of the England attack and his consistent accuracy earned two wickets.

Fast medium bowler Robin Jackman was the best of the England attack and his consistent accuracy earned two wickets.

The day started on a sad note with the teams and a capacity 16,000 crowd standing in silence for a few moments in memory of England assistant manager Ken Barrington.

Ray Floyd strikes again

MIAMI, March 16 (AP) — Veteran Ray Floyd successfully defended his title with a front-running, 4-under-par 68 Sunday that gave him a 273 total and his second consecutive victory in the Doral-Eastern Open Golf Tournament.

Floyd's victory ended Tom Kite's hopes of nabbing the biggest prize the game has offered.

Floyd, whose home is only a few miles from the Blue Monster course at the Doral Country Club, claimed the 13th victory of his career, finishing one stroke in front of Australian David Graham and Keith Fergus, who tied for second.

The victory, earned with a 15-under par total, was worth \$45,000 from the total purse of \$250,000 and opened for Floyd the possibility of a \$250,000 bonus if he is able to win next week's tournament Players Championship.

Kite, the winner at Inverrary last week, was chasing a big bonus that was worth \$500,000 to any golfer able to sweep the three Florida titles. The possibility ended with Floyd's victory here.

But the bonus situation also includes \$250,000 for a player able to win two of the three in a row.

Meanwhile, Patty Hayes fired a final round 4-under-par 69 Sunday to capture the \$100,008, LPGA Sun City classic by two

strokes over Sandra Palmer. It was Hayes' first title since joining the women's tour in 1974.

Hayes, a 26-year-old Floridian, was tied with Hollis Stacy through 13 holes of the fourth round. But she moved out to a four-stroke lead when Stacy double-bogied the 15th hole and bogied 16 to slip to one-under on her round and 11-under for the tournament. It also put Stacy a stroke behind Palmer. Palmer began the day at a 6-under, but put seven birdies on the board to finish second at 13-under 279.



LOOKS FORWARD: Ray Floyd, who successfully defended his Doral-Eastern Open Golf, title, looks forward to the Players' Championship and the \$250,000 bonus.

Connors walks away with Brussels title

BRUSSELS, March 16 (AP) — Jimmy Connors defeated fellow American Brian Gottfried 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 here Sunday to win the Brussels Grand Prix Tennis Tournament.

After Borg was eliminated by West German Roland Gehring Connors seemed assured of victory. Supremely confident at each step in the game, Connors played at top speed and completely dominated Gottfried.

Gottfried did what he could, and even managed to break Connors' service to lead 2-0 at the start of the first set. But Connors broke back soon enough, even twice, to win the first set 6-2 in a rather quick 32 minutes.

Gottfried fought back well in the second set, with many long rallies from the baseline. He served well but Connors went ahead again at three all, with his very fast returns of service and some mistakes at the net from Gottfried.

Connors won 6-4, and, from then on nobody had the slightest doubt he would win the match.

His double-fisted returns scored again and again in the third set. Breaking Gottfried's service repeatedly, he led 2-1, then 4-2, to finish 6-3 with another break, more thrilling passing shots and aces, after only two hours of play.

In Florida, Mel Purcell hit great passing shots in a dramatic comeback Sunday to negate the power game of Jeff Borowiak for a 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 victory and the championship of the \$75,000 Robinson's tennis open.

Purcell was down a set and a service break, but Borowiak missed four consecutive volleys to let a 3-1 advantage in the second set slip away. That was all the encouragement

Purcell needed. Borowiak, who started the week as a qualifier and won eight consecutive matches here, won \$7,500 and enough computer points to cut his world ranking in half, from 122 to 60. Butch Walts and Bernard Mitton of South Africa, the top-seeded pair, captured the \$4,500 top prize in doubles, defeating Australians David Carter and Paul Kronk 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.

Meanwhile, Argentina's Guillermo Vilas defeated Peter Elter of West Germany 6-2, 6-3 to win the Cairo Grand Prix Tennis Tournament here Sunday.

Vilas, who beat countryman Ricardo Cano in the semi-final Saturday, will take home a \$15,000 first prize, and Elter \$7,500.

Former Wimbledon junior champion Ramesh Krishnan of India made short work of American Andrew Pattison to win the Girard Perregaux tennis title in straight sets. The 19-year-old Krishnan won 6-1, 6-3, 6-2.

In Texas, Martina Navratilova jumped to an early, 4-0 first-lead and dominated the championship match from that point on to win her fourth tournament in six winter tour tries, beating Pam Shriver, 6-2, 6-4, Sunday for the Avon Championships of Dallas Women's Pro tennis title.

It took the Czechoslovakia native just 54 minutes to dispose of Shriver, 18, and capture the \$33,000 first prize.

"I came out strong again, as I have the whole week," said Navratilova, a former Dallas resident, after capturing her third straight Dallas singles title.

"Overall, I was very steady and served well most of the time," she added.

Venezuela records first win

CARACAS, Venezuela, March 16 (AP) — Venezuela's national soccer team beat Bolivia 1-0 Sunday in a game that may have assured Brazil's passage to next year's World Championship in Spain.

Defense Pedro Acosta scored from a header in the 24th minute to give the Venezuelans their first victory ever in a World Cup qualification game.

Bolivia and Venezuela are in qualification group one with Brazil, and the Brazilians, with two victories in two games, are the virtual winners of the group.

Bolivia and Venezuela have one victory and two losses in three games, for a total of two points each compared to Brazil's four. Next games in the group will be Brazil vs. Bolivia on March 22 and Brazil vs. Venezuela on March 29. Both games will be held in Rio de Janeiro's Maracana Stadium.

Meanwhile, Arsenal goalkeeper Pat Jennings is back in the Northern Ireland football squad for the World Cup qualifier against Scotland at Hampden Park, Glasgow, on March 25 but he faces a battle with Middleborough's Jim Platt to regain his place.

Platt has successfully deputized for Jennings for the last eight games, during which the Irish won the British Championship and beat Sweden in the World Cup qualifying competition.

Should Platt have to make way for Jennings, the latter would win his 84th cap. Arsenal's cup commitments, and then a foot injury, threatened his progress toward a century of international appearances.

Midfielder Tommy Cassidy, who has played in Northern Ireland's last eleven games, is missing from the squad because of injury, but there is a recall for southern striker, Derek Spence.

Spence won the last of his 25 caps when he became a substitute against Australia last summer, but has earned another chance by scoring 20 goals this season in helping South end United to a runaway lead in the English Fourth Division promotion race.

Ireland lost their last qualifying game in Portugal last November.

In the Hague, Ajax midfielder player Wim Jans has told Dutch selectors he does not want to be considered for selection.

LEASING FROM 18th APRIL 1981



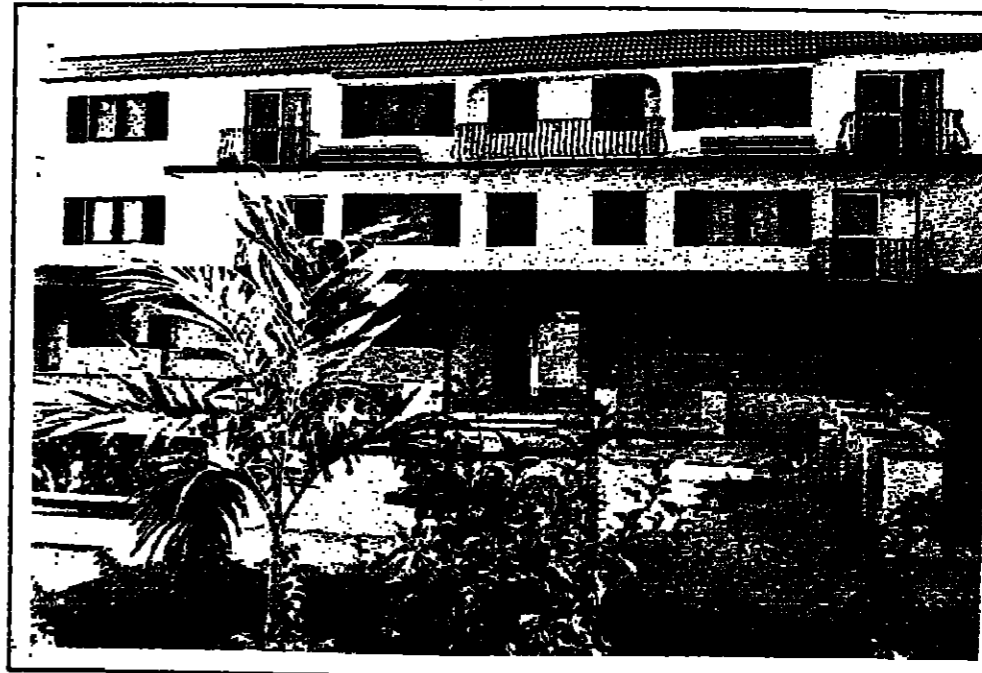
ARABIAN HOMES

ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE OPENING OF THEIR LATEST COMPOUND

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Handwritten Arabic text in a decorative box.

Tehran import engine oil products

TEHRAN, March 16 (R) — Iran's deputy minister said in an interview published in a newspaper that Iran would import refined oil products to meet its petrol shortage.

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U.S. lags behind Europe develops new energy sources

ROME, March 16 (AP) — The Italian government, seeking a substitute for costly oil, has bought a half-interest in four coal mines in the United States. In France, the twin cooling towers of a nuclear power plant next to the Loire River in the scenic Chateaux country.

There was an earlier perception in Europe that the 1973 events were real, that there was a fundamental change that people had to live with. Frederick Gorbet, the IEA's director for long-term cooperation and policy analysis, said in a telephone interview.

plies is the Soviet Union, and deals with Moscow can be politically sensitive. Europe's energy program differs in many respects from plans of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Bleak year ahead Global economy suffers setback in 1980

GENEVA, March 16 (R) — The world economy suffered its worst year since 1975 last year and trade in 1981 is running below last year's average with no signs of a revival, international economists reported Sunday.

yet, and world trade at the beginning of 1981 is running at a level somewhat below the average for 1980 as a whole. GATT said. The report said consumer prices in industrial countries rose by 13 per cent last year, the European Common Market (EEC) trade deficit more than tripled to a \$50 billion peak, and Eastern Europe produced less milk and meat after the previous year's sharp drop in grain output.

1980, reaching nearly \$300 billion, it said. But oil production declined steadily and was down by 25 per cent on the previous year's level last October, the first month to reflect fully the impact of the Gulf war.

SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Table with 5 columns: Priority, Description, No. of Tender, Price SR, Closing Date. Includes tenders for elementary schools, health units, and medical equipment.

Advertisement for the Republic of China's Food & Cultural Festival at Coral Restaurant, featuring Chinese specialties and atmosphere.

Advertisement for ENGINEERS MATERIALS, listing vacancies for materials engineers with civil engineering degrees.

For Sale advertisement for a large quantity frame scaffolding with access and support to British standard.

LEASE RIYADH advertisement for quality apartments for immediate occupancy, fully furnished with 2 & 3 bedrooms.

Building For Lease advertisement for a 4-storey high building with 18 furnished rooms and dining facility.

SALES ENGINEER WATERWELL EQUIPMENT advertisement for a leading oilfield & water resource supply company.

Textile trade EEC to renegotiate accords

BRUSSELS, March 16 (AFP) — The European Economic Community (EEC) is to make proposals by the end of the month for the renegotiation of textile agreements because community imports of clothing have doubled since 1973.

access — mainly Spain, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus, Turkey, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. The commission already has informal arrangements limiting exports from these countries, but these expire at the year-end and the commission wants the council of ministers to instruct it to establish a consultation system permitting import limitations when the stability of the community market is threatened.

Table titled 'Foreign Exchange Rates' showing rates for various currencies including Bahraini Dinar, Belgian Franc, Canadian Dollar, etc.

The commission wants to do something about this as well as to draft a policy for the whole industry, which accounts for nearly ten per cent of jobs in manufacturing.

Fear of famine haunts Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, March 16 (AP) — President Julius Nyerere has warned that Tanzania faces "a serious famine situation" that he fears poses the east African nation's gravest crisis since it gained independence from Britain 20 years ago.

FOR RENT advertisement for a highly equipped workshop on 6000 S.M. and very good location on the entrance of Industrial Zone.

AVIATRANS advertisement for holiday packages, including Kenya, Greece, Cyprus, and Cairo trips.

FOR SALE advertisement for a two floor store with its goods, located at Olaya Main Street.

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I FORGOT ABOUT IT! IT'S ALL OVER MY DUTY ROSTER!

NOW WHAT?

BLONDIE

HURRY, HERB, WE'LL MISS OUR BUS! OH, NO! MY HAT! I'LL GET IT! BRING IT TO MY OFFICE!

GREAT DYNAMICS! ... WHAT DOES IT GET 'MILEWISE'? FIVE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY FEET

B.C.

HEY, MISTER NOBLE! THANKS FOR HELPIN' FLORRIE COME WI' THE SHOPPIN' YESTERDAY, IT MUST'VE WEIGHED A TON

GLAD TO HELP, MISTER CAPP

DO YOU SMOKE? AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DO

OH, GOOD, I'VE RUN OUT - COULD YOU LEND ME A COUPLE? YOU DO MEET SOME FUNNY PEOPLE...

ANDY CAPP

YOU'VE GOT EAR FATIGUE! YOU NEED A PERIOD OF SILENCE, AVOID ALL WITTY TALK, JOKES, TITTLE-TATTLE AND POETRY... ...AND STAY OUT OF IRELAND FOR A WHILE...

HAGAR

AM I A WORKING MOTHER?? IS THERE ANY OTHER KIND??

SMALL SOCIETY

SPRING WILL BE HERE SOON

YES, THE DAYS ARE BEGINNING TO GET LONGER

THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH SPRING

WIZARD

TOO MUCH BACKSWING, PETE --- THE VOLLEY IS A SHORT STROKE IT GETS POWER FROM THE SPLENDOR OF THE DRILL, NOT FROM YOU!

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DENNIS the MENACE



Contract Bridge

B. Jay Becker

Never Say Die

North dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A Q J
 ♥ K 9 7 3
 ♦ Q 8 6
 ♣ A Q 5

EAST
 ♠ 8 5
 ♥ 10 6 5
 ♦ A 10 5 3
 ♣ J 6 3 2

SOUTH
 ♠ K 10 9 7 6 4
 ♥ A 4 2
 ♦ J 2
 ♣ K 7

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1NT Pass 3♣ Pass
 4♥ Pass 5♥ Pass
 6♣ Pass 6♣

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

Even the best players get to bad contracts — usually because of overbidding. When this occurs, declarer should try to make the contract; he should not spend his time dwelling upon who was responsible for the imminent fiasco. Here is a case of this sort.

North opened one notrump and South responded three spades, which was certainly correct. But when North raised to four spades, South decided to try for a slam — and this was certainly incorrect. There was almost no chance that 11

high-card points facing 16-to-18 points could add up to the 33 points usually required in balanced hands to make a slam.

West led a club — a lucky break number one — and South had to put all his expertise to work to make the slam despite his two diamond losers. Fortunately, the task did not prove to be impossible.

He won the club lead with the king, played the A-Q of spades, and cashed the A-Q of clubs, carefully discarding a heart from his hand instead of yielding to the temptation to discard one of his diamond losers.

The rest of the play was easy enough. Declarer cashed the A-K of hearts and ruffed the seven of hearts. When the suit proved to be divided 3-3 — lucky break number two — dummy's nine of hearts became a trick. As a result, South could now enter dummy with a trump to the jack, discard a diamond on the nine of hearts, and thus bring home the slam.

Maybe it's true that crime does not usually pay, but the fact is that sometimes it does — as illustrated here where South got away with what seemed to be murder in the first degree. It is easy to condemn South for his adventurous bidding, but it's hard to prove that he was wrong when the result proved that he was right.

Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake

FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1981

What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth sign.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A luncheon date with a close friend helps to resolve differences. Utilize creative imagination. Introspection marks the evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Work concerns needn't alienate you from your family. Shared worries will disappear. Contact friends in evening hours.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You needn't be worried about the outcome of a date. Things will go better than anticipated. Be level-headed about career decisions.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Include family on shopping expeditions. Together you'll make an advantageous decision. Trust hunches about work projects.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) A tendency to self-doubt will be overcome by midday, when you'll be at your best. Afternoon favors getting the books in order.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Little things may trouble you about a relationship. Don't

to express yourself and your worries will be alleviated. Trust others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Midday is the best time to get-togethers with other Later, you'll have the tendency to overdo. Get sufficient rest.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Do further research before committing yourself about career matter. Don't mix business and pleasure at dinner. Instead, relax.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You'll get conflicting advice in the morning, but one friend shows real insight. Consult with family before making travel plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Financial considerations affect career decisions. higher-up takes time to map up his mind. Get in touch with friends later.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You and a close friend enjoy a party together. Be sure to include loved ones your plans, but watch social expenses.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) Get help if you need it. Consult with experts about business matters. Midday things work success. Don't over-tire yourself.

Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Maine town
 - Earnings
 - Boast
 - Funt's attribute
 - Part
 - English
 - Roundhead general
 - Latin love term
 - Signpost abbr.
 - Quiet!
 - Hitchcock film
 - Hasten
 - 20 Sensed
 - Wine's delicacy (Fr.)
 - Stratagem
 - Adhesive
 - Luncheon
 - Vocal renditions
 - Letter
 - Descriptive of a fog
 - U.S. air group
 - Performed
 - Surpass
 - Gridiron number
 - Vidal book
 - Tough
 - Gaelic
 - Tiny
- DOWN**
- Vamoose!
 - Coffee's setting
 - Have debts
 - Word after silver or iron
 - Wood core
 - Understand
 - Caustic
 - South Carolina river
 - Relative of the mongoose
 - Winged (ber.)
 - Hotbed
 - Seaman
 - Nelson
 - Eddy film
 - Hateful person
 - Abhor
 - Thorny
 - Reverend
 - Belgian town
 - Reverse (abbr.)
 - Wagon

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE — Here's how to work it!

A X Y D L B A A X
 L O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letter apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTES

Z Q E K W M Q G G Q J Q Z Q E
 Q L Y M N Q L D Y M Y Q A R G G W
 U Q L G R O O Z Q E N M N R Y J C R G U W

L R F — R Y Q Y
 Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE COOK WAS A GOOD COOK. A COOKS GO; AND AS COOKS GO, SHE WENT. — H.H. MUNRO

Believe It or Not!



arab news CALENDAR

DAHMAN TV Arano	F.M. 8:00 News Roundup	VOA	News Summary	SAUDI RADIO-ENGLISH SERVICE	RADIO FRANCAISE	MONDAY	RADIO PAKISTAN
4:30 Children's Show 5:31 All Star Soccer 6:32 Hello, Larry 7:04 To The Manor Born 7:59 Adams Chooses 8:27 Lost Gram 9:15 Dallas	8:00 News Roundup 8:30 Daily Arabic News Summary 9:00 News Summary 9:30 News Summary 10:00 News Summary 10:30 News Summary	10:30 World News 11:00 World News 11:30 World News 12:00 World News 12:30 World News 1:00 World News 1:30 World News 2:00 World News 2:30 World News 3:00 World News 3:30 World News 4:00 World News 4:30 World News 5:00 World News 5:30 World News 6:00 World News 6:30 World News 7:00 World News 7:30 World News 8:00 World News 8:30 World News 9:00 World News 9:30 World News 10:00 World News 10:30 World News 11:00 World News 11:30 World News 12:00 World News 12:30 World News	11:00 Special English: News 11:30 Music U.S.: (Jazz) 12:00 WORLD REPORT 12:30 News Summary 1:00 News Summary 1:30 News Summary 2:00 News Summary 2:30 News Summary 3:00 News Summary 3:30 News Summary 4:00 News Summary 4:30 News Summary 5:00 News Summary 5:30 News Summary 6:00 News Summary 6:30 News Summary 7:00 News Summary 7:30 News Summary 8:00 News Summary 8:30 News Summary 9:00 News Summary 9:30 News Summary 10:00 News Summary 10:30 News Summary 11:00 News Summary 11:30 News Summary 12:00 News Summary	12:00 Opening 12:30 Opening 1:00 Opening 1:30 Opening 2:00 Opening 2:30 Opening 3:00 Opening 3:30 Opening 4:00 Opening 4:30 Opening 5:00 Opening 5:30 Opening 6:00 Opening 6:30 Opening 7:00 Opening 7:30 Opening 8:00 Opening 8:30 Opening 9:00 Opening 9:30 Opening 10:00 Opening 10:30 Opening 11:00 Opening 11:30 Opening 12:00 Opening	12:00 Opening 12:30 Opening 1:00 Opening 1:30 Opening 2:00 Opening 2:30 Opening 3:00 Opening 3:30 Opening 4:00 Opening 4:30 Opening 5:00 Opening 5:30 Opening 6:00 Opening 6:30 Opening 7:00 Opening 7:30 Opening 8:00 Opening 8:30 Opening 9:00 Opening 9:30 Opening 10:00 Opening 10:30 Opening 11:00 Opening 11:30 Opening 12:00 Opening	7:45 Religious Program 8:00 News 8:10 Light Music 8:30 Literary Magazine 8:45 Customs Rules 9:00 News 9:05 Pakistan's Progress Path MECCA Al-Quiba Pharmacy Western Coast Pharmacy Al-Sharafa Pharmacy MEDINA Salah Pharmacy Jamoum Pharmacy Al-Badl Pharmacy IBRAHIM Red Sea Pharmacy Ra-Iaher Pharmacy Western Coast Pharmacy Al-Sharafa Pharmacy RIYADH Al-Sagheer Pharmacy Al-Hibab Pharmacy Al-Ahram Pharmacy The Support Pharmacy IBRAHIM TAIF H. Balch Pharmacy Al-Sunna Pharmacy BAMA & BALAGHSHI BAMBAH Pharmacy Al-Tajwan Pharmacy BAMBAH	Evening Precedence 17918, 21485, 21785 U Wavelengths 16.74, 13.96, 13.79 U 4:30 Religious Program 4:45 Old Masters (Music) 5:15 Historical Notes 5:45 One Poet 6:00 News 6:15 Press Review 6:20 On This Day 6:25 New Song Pharmacies to Open Tuesday Night Al-Quiba Street Al-Madina Al-Ahli Street Al-Salam Street Al-Salam Street Bab Sherif King Khalid Street The Jail Street Al-Sharafa Munfouha Main Street The Shimali New Street Aver Street Al-Salam Street Al-Margab Square Al-Sharafa, King's Street Next to the Health Bureau King Street Baba, the Main Street

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ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE SENT TO:

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UNIVERSITY OF RIYADH
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That Mr. Paul Gerold, German National, Passport No. E-1426297 leaves the services of our company with effect from 20th March, 1981.

Any claims Against Mr. Gerold must be forwarded to us before this date. Arab German Construction Company will no longer be responsible for any business dealings held by Mr. Gerold on our behalf after the above mentioned date, and hereby decline responsibility towards him.

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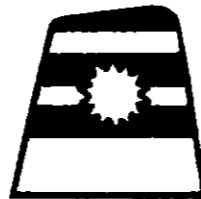
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Notice

United Arab Shipping Co., Saudi Arabia Branch announces that due to termination of the services of Mr. Reginald Francis Wales, British national, as manager of the Co. branch in Saudi Arabia on 14-2-81, he will be given an exit-visa only.

Whoever has any claims against him should call telephone nos. 8328487, 8328734 or come personally to our office in Dammam within one week of the publication of this notice.

ANNOUNCEMENT

AHMED TURKI TRADING ESTABLISHMENT announces their employee, Guillermo G. Cerbo, a Filipino national, left the Kingdom on an Exit- Re-Entry Visa. However he has failed to return to his job.

Ahmed Turki Trad. Est. warns employers not to have any dealing with him as doing so will be contrary to the Kingdom's Labour Laws.
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PAGE 12

Civilians killed

Iraqi missiles hit border cities again

BEIRUT, March 16 (AP) — Iran said Iraqi warplanes and ground to ground missiles blasted Iranian border cities Sunday, following a threat by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to conquer Iran's entire oil heartland.

A delegation from the International Red Cross was inspecting devastated residential neighborhoods in the southwestern cities of Ahwaz and Dezful when the Iraqis struck at both. Iran's official Pars news agency reported.

A volley of Soviet-made Frog-7 missiles, each nine meters long, slammed into the

Police seize gunmen, save Moscow girl

MOSCOW, March 16 (AP) — An unidentified gunman took a young girl hostage in a Moscow apartment early Monday and fired several shots from the window, apparently wounding a man on the street below, before he was seized by police, witnesses said.

Police took a man, apparently the gunman, away from the apartment building on Prospekt Mira, shortly after noon, the witnesses said. There was no official comment on the incident but Soviet sources at the scene, pointing to two open windows in the building, said the standoff ended about noon, some three hours, after witnesses reported hearing the first shots. It was not known how the siege ended.

One policeman at the scene was quoted as calling the gunman a "madman." An unconfirmed report said the man wounded in the shooting was the father of the young girl. Western sources said they understood she was unharmed.

According to witnesses the gunman held the girl in an apartment in a part of the 10-story building reserved for Soviet citizens. Most of the building houses foreign diplomats, businessmen and journalists. It appeared that no foreigners were involved.

Armed police in bulletproof vests had surrounded the building and took up positions at windows across the courtyard from the apartment held by the gunman. Foreign residents of the building were told to stay indoors.

Turkey, Greece discuss Aegean

ANKARA, March 16 (AP) — High ranking Turkish and Greek government officials met Monday in a fresh attempt to solve long-standing Aegean Sea disputes between the two neighboring countries.

Stavros Roussos secretary-general of the Greek foreign ministry, met his Turkish counterpart Kamuran Gurun for the eighth round of talks since the two nations decided to seek peaceful solutions to the thorny issues dividing them. Statements by both diplomats indicated a new optimism on the course of the conferences but observers noted that it was too early to expect a major breakthrough.

Roussos arrived in the Turkish capital Saturday, accompanied by a four-man team of experts on complicated Aegean airspace and seabed controversies with Turkey. Sources said Roussos and Gurun will only make a "general approach" to the issues, concerning conflicting claims on airspace and continental shelf rights in the Aegean Sea that lies between the two NATO member countries.

"We are here not only to speak... but to achieve something," Roussos told reporters before the scheduled session at the Turkish Foreign Ministry.

The Greek official stressed that he attached special importance to the current meeting which he said may "open up new horizons in the relations" between Ankara and Athens. The disputes, which date to the early 1970s, have brought the two nations to the brink of war at least twice in the past. Turkey and Greece have also been quarreling over the Mediterranean island of Cyprus, divided between its Turkish and Greek communities.

army garrison city of Dezful for the fifth time in one week, killing six civilians and leveling a mosque and several houses, Pars said.

Iraqi fighter bombers rocketed the hilly outskirts of Ahwaz, capital of Iran's southwestern oil province of Khuzistan, causing property damage but no casualties, Pars said. The Red Cross delegation had finished a tour of Dezful and headed for Ahwaz when the Iraqi planes attacked, according to Pars.

More than 50 civilians were officially reported killed by four previous Frog-7 assaults fired from Iraqi positions into Dezful and Ahwaz last week. Arab diplomatic sources close to Iraq in Beirut said the escalated Iraqi missile and air strikes were designed to soften Iranian resistance prior to a major offensive the Iraqis planned to launch on the two cities and on the oil refining city of Abadan.

The sources said the impending Iraqi push would be designed to conquer the whole of Khuzistan, which Iraq calls Arabistan, and hold an independence referendum to proclaim the 24,000 square-mile (60,000 Sq km) region a breakaway state. Saddam Hussein gave a strong hint this was his intention in a speech he made in Baghdad Saturday vowing to help dismember Iran.

"The Iraqi armed forces are on the verge of a new advance," Hussein said. "The Arab people of Arabistan should begin to prepare themselves for exercising their national rights on their national soil. They have a historic and ethnic right to nationhood."

Hussein also said Iraq was ready to provide arms to all autonomy seeking minorities in Iran, including Kurds, Azerbaijanis and Baluchis, to "realize their aspirations and national rights and live in honor and stability through good neighborly relations with Iraq."

"The suitable elements for Iran's dismemberment are growing daily," Hussein said. "The geographic structure and the various nationalities of the Iranian peoples make Iran liable for dismemberment."

A military communique from Baghdad claimed Iraqi air force jets raided Dezful, Ahwaz and Iran's Gulf port of Bandar-Shahpur, shooting down one U.S.-made F-14 Iranian jet in a dogfight over the key highway Iranian border town of Susangerd.

In a related development, Iranian troops have killed 80 Kurdish rebels and wounded 40 in a series of clashes in the troubled province of west Azerbaijan over the past two days, the newspaper *Johuri-Ye-Eslami* (Islamic republic) reported Monday. Both sides used mortars and Soviet-made grenade launchers in the fighting at the village of Qapan Kandi, east of the former Kurdish stronghold of Mahabad, the paper said.

Shah's son attends Cairo tournament

CAIRO, March 16 (AP) — Looking relaxed but surrounded by security guards, the widow and eldest son of the late Shah of Iran made a rare public appearance here by attending the finals of the Cairo International Tennis Tournament.

Widow Farah Diba wore a skirt, blouse and headband Sunday and sat alongside her soft drink-swilling son, Reza, in a front row at the Ghezira Sporting Club.

Last Oct. 31, on his 20th birthday, Reza proclaimed in a Cairo ceremony that he was inheriting the Iranian monarchy despite the toppling of his father's regime in February of 1979. The family of the late Shah Muhammad Reza Pahlavi has been living in a one-time Egyptian royal palace here since last spring. The deposed king died in an Egyptian military hospital last July following months of treatment for lymph cancer and other complications.

The Pahlavis since then have lived a near-recluse, shying from publicity and venturing out only a mid cautious security. Reza, in fact, has stopped attending classes at the American University in Cairo and opted for private tutoring because, according to sources aware of the family's decision, his presence on the campus left him too exposed. His younger sisters and brother still attend an American school in a suburb south of Cairo.

Farah Diba, known for her charm and outgoing manner, meets occasionally with Egyptian



YET ANOTHER SEARCH: Donald Waddell (second from left) leads the 11th group of searchers for missing black children around Atlanta's Interstate 285, the perimeter highway, Saturday. Waddell, 42, a special forces veteran of the 11th Airborne Division, has taken part in all the Saturday searches.

U.S. panel chairman leaves for El Salvador

WASHINGTON, March 16 (Agencies) — The chairman of a U.S. subcommittee responsible for overseas credit left here Sunday night for Central America where Monday he is expected to meet officials of the El Salvador ruling junta. Democratic representative Clarence Long (of Maryland) who has already expressed his doubts about U.S. involvement in El Salvador also plans to visit Guatemala, Costa Rica and Mexico, a colleague said.

The State Department denied any knowledge of Long's trip, while a Maryland television station said Sunday night that the State Department had not banned the trip but wanted Long's itinerary kept secret. Long is chairman of the House of Representatives subcommittee which is scheduled to vote Monday on President Reagan's proposed \$5 million first slice of military aid to the junta. A total of \$25 million is involved in the president's proposals.

Meanwhile, *Time* magazine reported that papers seized in a police raid on a grocery store in El Salvador were the basis for U.S. charges of Cuban and Soviet bloc gunrunning

to San Salvador. The documents, hidden in a suitcase and a plastic bag in a hollow wall of the shop, lay on a desk until U.S. diplomat John Glasman asked police if they had any information on arms supplies to leftist guerrillas, the magazine said.

He decided them, it said, and found they referred to arms supply lines through Nicaragua and described Cuba as a transshipment point for arms from Ethiopia and Vietnam. *Time* said the papers represented more than 70 per cent of the material used by the Reagan administration in drawing up its allegations last month of Soviet and Cuban arms aid to the guerrillas.

In a related development, the EEC Commission is to resume its humanitarian aid project for the people of El Salvador immediately, despite recent U.S. reservations, EEC (European Economic Community) in Brussels said Sunday.

Foreign ministers of the ten community countries had agreed on Feb. 17 to a U.S. request not to make a final decision until they were sure the aid would go to people in need,

Polish Democrats seek changes in electoral law

WARSAW, March 16 (Agencies) — Poland's Communist-linked Democratic Party has opened a national congress here with calls for changes in the electoral law, restoration of the president's office and respect for the independence of the courts.

Delegates at the congress said it was the liveliest and most critical meeting ever held by the party, a small grouping originally of intellectuals which was absorbed into the Communist-controlled National Unity Front after World War II. There are two such non-Communist parties in the alliance, the Democrats and the Peasants.

The congress, which opened Saturday with

a speech by Communist Party leader Stanislaw Kania, is the first of its kind in Poland since last summer's political upheaval. The Democrats, who have some 30 deputies in the 450-seat Sejm (parliament), have come out forcefully in favor of the liberalization which has followed.

Delegates told reporters that there was a question of the Democratic Party seeking to challenge Communist supremacy, but they said the party wanted more influence and greater democratization.

They said a large number of the delegates were either members of the Solidarity free trade union or sympathizers. Delegates said they expected a call for a change in the present electoral law to be included in a final congress resolution.

Small lead for Dacko in election

BANGUI, March 16 (R) — President David Dacko held a narrow lead Monday in the Central African Republic's presidential election, according to first results from the capital, official sources said. With about 60 per cent of the votes counted in Bangui after Sunday's ballot, he had won 45 per cent compared to 41 per cent for his nearest opposition challenger, Ange Patasse of the Liberation Movement for the Central African People, the sources said.

It was the country's first election since 1964 and came 18 months after the coup which ousted the republic's former ruler, self-proclaimed Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa. President Dacko, who was favorite to win the election against four other candidates, said the security forces were ordered to "crush any attempt to disrupt the democratic process" and the election apparently went off calmly.

Dacko, 50, is seeking a six-year term as nominee of the Central African Democratic Union. He was the first president of the republic after independence from France in 1960, but was overthrown by Bokassa, his cousin, in a bloodless military coup in 1966.

His chief opponent Patasse was prime minister under Bokassa. Bokassa, sentenced to death in his absence by Bangui's central criminal court last year, now lives in the Ivory Coast which granted him political asylum.

Early Monday, there was no indication of voting trends in the provinces and final results from there may not be known before the middle of the week. There were problems in the organization of the election. Some polling booths were kept open an extra hour in the evening as there was a shortage of ballot papers.

Gold tops \$500, dollar weakens

LONDON, March 16 (AP) — Gold returned to the \$500 level Monday and the dollar weakened slightly due to lower interest rates. Trading was thin.

The British pound was worth £ 12.223 (\$2.2188).

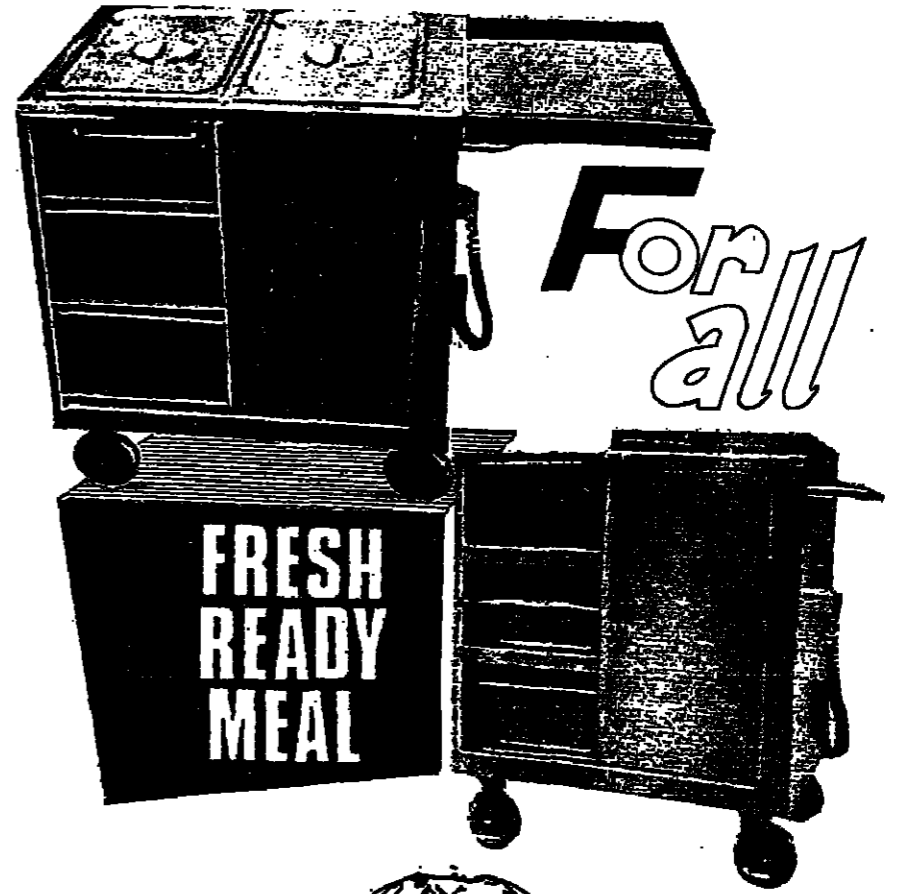
In Tokyo, the dollar closed at 208.40 yen up from 207.65 Friday. In later European trading, however, the dollar slipped to 207.88 yen. One European foreign exchange dealer noted that interest rates were "coming down everywhere," with predictions the major U.S. banks may soon cut their prime lending rates from the present 17.5 to 18 per cent level to around 17 per cent.

The reductions helped gold which had tumbled more than \$100 since the start of the year. Gold was quoted at a median \$500.50 a troy ounce in London mid-morning just before the city's five bullion houses agreed to a recommended fix. That was up from \$492.25 late Friday and the first time gold topped \$500 since Feb. 25.

In Zurich, gold traded for \$497.50, up from \$493.83. In New York on Friday gold finished at \$487.00. Silver was quoted in London at \$12.45 an ounce, up from \$12.24 late Friday.

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From page 1

craft. Two Americans among the hostages said they came within minutes of being executed at one point, but one described the sky pirates as an inept trio who "kept falling asleep and dropping their hand grenades."

"They were ready to kill us all, one at a time, Americans one every hour," a freed hostage who identified himself as Craig Clymore told reporters when he walked into the Meridien Hotel lobby in Damascus after being released from the Syrian military hospital.

The other American, who identified himself as Lawrence Mangum, said later in a telephone interview that he had little respect for the hijackers, whom he described as "a kindergarten class."

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